

Explosions heard near Bahrain

BAHRAIN (R) — Several explosions were heard in Gulf waters northeast of Bahrain on Wednesday in an area where shipping sources said U.S. navy vessels were taking exercises. A U.S. navy spokesman said American warships had also heard the blasts but were not involved. The shipping sources said the U.S. amphibious assault ship Guadalcanal, which brought mine-sweeping helicopters to the Gulf, was in the area taking supplies aboard from barges. A U.S. navy spokesman said later two American sailors were slightly hurt during military exercises on a U.S. warship in the Gulf on Wednesday. He said the two men were hit by shrapnel when a 40-mm grenade exploded prematurely during machinegun training on the guided missile cruiser William H. Standley, anchored off Bahrain. He said the accident at about two p.m. (1100 GMT) had nothing to do with several loud explosions heard in Bahrain three hours later. There was no immediate explanation for the explosions.

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Hassan II calls for Islamic summit

RABAT (AP) — King Hassan II of Morocco called Wednesday for an Islamic summit meeting following the rioting at Mecca in which hundreds of people were killed. In a public statement, the king noted that following the burning of the Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem in 1969, "the Muslim world reacted like a single man" with officials meeting "to face the challenge put before them." He referred to the riots at Mecca on July 31 during the pilgrim season as "an even greater threat against the ensemble of our beliefs which form the base of our Muslim society."

Israel seeks to avert indictments in Pollard affair

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's former ambassador to the United States has flown to Washington amid concern that four Israelis could be indicted in the Jonathan Pollard spy scandal, an Israeli official said on Wednesday. The official, who briefed foreign journalists on condition that he was not identified, said Meir Rosenfeld, who served as ambassador until last May, would meet State and Justice department officials. Newspaper and radio reports in Israel have said four Israelis could be indicted in the affair, which has already scarred relations between Israel and its closest ally, the United States.

U.S. may give Stingers to Chad

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. government is considering a request from Chad for Stinger anti-aircraft missiles that could be used to protect Chad's borders against Libyan air strikes, officials said Wednesday. The officials said Chad President Hissene Habre first raised the issue during a visit to Washington in July. Chad is still pressing the request, and it is now being actively considered by the administration, the sources said. Chirac urges Habre to pursue diplomacy, page 2.

Afghan talks extended

GENEVA (R) — Afghanistan offered a new timetable on Wednesday for the withdrawal of some 115,000 Soviet troops from its territory, diplomatic sources close to United Nations peace talks said. The move prompted U.N. mediator Diego Cordovez to extend peace talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan for another day. The three-day meeting was due to finish on Wednesday. A spokesman for Mr. Cordovez refused to comment on developments at the talks but confirmed the meeting was extended.

Chinese and Israeli officials meet

TEL AVIV (R) — The director-general of Israel's foreign ministry, Avraham Tamir, has had talks with China's ambassador to the United Nations for the second time this year, a ministry spokesman said on Wednesday. "They agreed to have an open channel of communication, and that is important for two countries that don't maintain diplomatic relations," spokesman Aviv Shir-On told reporters. The meeting between Mr. Tamir and ambassador Li Lave on Tuesday focused on efforts to convene an international Middle East peace conference. The two men also met in March.

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Iraqi jets slam Iranian targets in revenge for missiles fired at Kuwait

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq launched a series of coordinated air raids on Iranian power plants, factories and oil centres Wednesday in a "day of revenge" for missile strikes and other attacks on Kuwait.

More than a dozen targets were "demolished" in the attacks that began Tuesday night with air strikes on tankers in the Gulf, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said. Iran claimed three Iraqi jets were shot down. INA noted military communications admitted one plane was lost in Wednesday's raids carried out between 9:04 a.m. (0504 GMT) and 2 p.m. (1000 GMT).

Baghdad military communications said Iraq's air force, which outnumbered Iran's depleted air strength by around 8-1, flew 122 combat missions while helicopter gunships flew 43 more during the "day of revenge."

The communications warned that Iraq would "continue its attacks against Iran until the Iranian regime accepts to live with the people of the region in peace and puts an end to the war" in accordance with a July 20 United Nations Security Council ceasefire resolution.

Tehran's war information headquarters vowed immediate retaliatory bombardments "with full intensity" and warned Iraqis to evacuate areas near industrial and military targets.

The Iraqi agency later said the southern city of Basra and the northern border town of Khanaqin were shelled by long-range artillery.

A Baghdad military communication said the air raids on Iranian industrial and communications complexes, and an offshore oil terminal in the northwestern Gulf, were in revenge for Iranian missile attacks on Kuwait last week.

It linked the attacks with a pledge by President Saddam Hussein to "hit Iran with 1,000 bullets for each bullet it fires on Kuwait."

The Iraqi raids were launched a day after Baghdad reported hitting two naval targets in an attack that ended a three-day lull in the conflict.

Shipping sources in Dubai said two Iranian tugboats were sunk by Iraqi warplanes in a raid on Tuesday near Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal.

The brief lull in the seven-year-old Gulf conflict had raised hopes for a successful mission by U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who is expected in Tehran on Friday and will later visit Baghdad to seek a ceasefire.

A Gulf-based diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Iraq's attacks had "come in bursts, and they might allow the lull to be restored just before the U.N. secretary-general starts out from New York."

Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) quoted acting Foreign Minister Ali Mohammad Besharati as saying Iran remained ready to talk to the U.N. chief without any limitations.

"We have not imposed any reconciliations for the talks and we have not accepted any limita-

tions on any particular subject," IRNA quoted Mr. Besharati as telling the English language Tehran Times.

IRNA said the Iraqi air strikes killed at least five people and wounded 25 in Bakhtaran, formerly Kermanshah, one of six cities the Iranians said were hit.

Iraq said 11 cities and two other industrial targets were bombed. But there was immediate no word from Tehran of casualties in other towns.

IRNA quoted military communications as saying large numbers of warplanes hit power stations, factories, fuel depots and communications centres in western and southwestern Iran along with oil platforms in the Gulf.

Iraq today avenged Iranian attacks on Kuwait in a series of powerful and destructive strikes

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Perez de Cuellar seeks to revive U.N. role, page 4

Ryzhkov meets Arab delegation, promises to seek Gulf ceasefire

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai I. Ryzhkov on Wednesday said the Iran-Iraq war had been a "calamity" for both nations and declared the Kremlin would press for application of a U.N.-mandated ceasefire.

However, a Soviet Foreign Ministry official told reporters his country wants to see if a U.N. mission can make progress on ending the conflict before deciding how the "rich armory" of further steps the United Nations could take may be used.

At the Kremlin, Mr. Ryzhkov received a seven-member delegation of officials from member states of the Arab League who are seeking to achieve a settlement in the seven-year-old conflict.

The Arab League delegation, headed by Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah, arrived on Tuesday night for talks with Soviet officials.

officials reviewed Soviet proposals for easing tension in the Gulf which include a call for the withdrawal of all foreign warships from the region.

Among the delegation members was Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz, who was received by Mr. Ryzhkov one day after the Soviet head of government held talks with the deputy foreign minister of Iran.

In comments reported by TASS, Mr. Ryzhkov said continuation of the Gulf fighting has had a "serious destabilising effect" on the situation in the region, and threatens international peace and security.

He said the Security Council measure, which was supported by the Soviet Union and the United States and adopted unanimously, opens "the real way to ending war and normalising the situation in the region."

U.S. officials have called for

(Continued on page 3)

2 killed and 20 injured in Tripoli bomb blast

TRIPOLI (Agencies) — A car rigged with explosives went off near the entrance of a department store in this north Lebanese town on Wednesday. Police said at least two people were killed and 20 injured.

They said a yellow Dodge fitted with a Syrian license plate exploded at 12:20 p.m. (0920 GMT) near the entrance of the ABC department store in Tripoli's main Tal Square, a short police statement said.

Helmeted Syrian soldiers, armed with assault rifles, sealed off the blast scene and prevented reporters from approaching.

Witnesses quoted by AP said the blast wrecked three cars parked nearby and set fire to three other vehicles in addition to shattering glass within a 100-metre radius.

Ambulances, their sirens wailing, evacuated the casualties to hospitals as firefighters extinguished the blaze in the three cars, the witnesses told AP.

The casualties brought to 57 the number of people killed and to 288 those injured in 16 car bombings in Lebanon this year.

Tripoli, 70 kilometres north of Beirut, is controlled by the 25,000-man Syrian army garrison in north and east Lebanon.

The explosion was the second in Tripoli since two bombs hit a busy intersection of the city on Aug. 29, killing two people and wounding 23.

UNIFIL soldier killed

A French U.N. soldier has died after shooting himself while cleaning his weapon, a spokesman for the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) said Wednesday.

The spokesman said the young soldier was based in Naqoura, just north of the Israeli border, and that the incident on Monday was apparently an accident.

A total 145 UNIFIL soldiers have been killed and 220 wounded, many of them in accidents, since the 5,700-strong peacekeeping force was set up in South Lebanon in 1978.

U.S. deplors violence

In another development, a U.S. spokesman, asked about the weekend Israeli air raid against Palestinian targets near Sidon in southern Lebanon, said: "We deplore the cycle of violence in Lebanon that has resulted in the death and injury of so many people."

"We call on all parties to exercise restraint and to work toward arrangements that could permit restoration of the effective authority of the Lebanese government throughout the country," spokesman Charles Redman said.



KING VISITS GHQ: His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, confers with Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker during a visit he paid to the Armed Forces General Headquarters on Wednesday (Petra photo)

Khatib: Jordan is shocked by news of Arafat's offer of direct talks with Israel

If report is true, clarification will be needed over PLO leader's deviation from Arab stand

AMMAN (J.T.) — Information Minister Mohammad Al Khatib was quoted on Wednesday as expressing shock at reports that Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat had offered to enter direct talks with Israel.

"We are astonished, shocked if this is true," Mr. Khatib was quoted as saying by Reuters. "This means direct negotiations with Israel outside the (proposed) international conference," the minister said.

"If this is right, it is completely different from the Arab and Jordanian line. It is a shock for Arab public opinion and I think it needs some clarification from the PLO leaders."

Israeli parliament member Charlie Biton said in Geneva that Mr. Arafat had told him he was ready for direct negotiations with Israel outside an international conference.

Jordan and most Arab states have endorsed the idea of a U.N.-sponsored peace conference on the Middle East grouping the five permanent Security Council members and all other parties concerned.

Jordan broke off political coordination with the PLO leadership in February 1986 saying that Mr. Arafat had reneged on a pledge to accept U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 as the basis for a settlement.

Mr. Biton said in Geneva on Wednesday that Mr. Arafat



Mohammad Al Khatib

— far earlier asked him to relay a secret message to the Israeli government outlining three conditions which would enable the Jewish state to enter direct peace talks with the PLO.

"Mr. Arafat told me the three points are a base to begin negotiations for peace — to begin open and free negotiations," Mr. Biton said, calling it a radical, new and extreme proposal.

Until now Mr. Arafat has demanded that negotiations be conducted in the context of a multinational peace conference, with the PLO as a full delegate.

As recently as Monday, in a Geneva speech to a United Nations gathering on Palestine, he called for such a conference on the basis of U.N. resolutions.

That night he met Mr. Biton and two associates to

relay the message to the Israeli government, Mr. Biton said.

A founder of an Israeli movement supporting negotiations with the PLO, Mr. Biton said he would deliver Mr. Arafat's message to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres — and would give them until Sunday to respond. "If the government does not accept (Mr. Arafat's offer), I will tell the whole world that Israel is against peace, and I will reveal his conditions," Mr. Biton said.

A statement from Mr. Biton's Democratic Front for Peace and Equality said the Arafat-Biton meeting proved "once more and very clearly that there is no basis to the claims that it is impossible to negotiate with the PLO and achieve peace."

An aide to Prime Minister Shamir said Israel's judiciary would have to discuss whether charges would be brought against the Israelis who met Mr. Arafat.

A spokesman for Mr. Shamir said he thought it unlikely the right-wing Israeli leader would accept any message from Mr. Arafat, although Mr. Shamir did not object to meeting Mr. Biton.

The spokesman said Mr. Shamir saw the Arafat message as a propaganda exercise by the PLO.

(Continued on page 3)

Arab boys recount Israeli torture and forced confessions

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Three Palestinian boys from the occupied West Bank said on Wednesday that Israeli soldiers tortured them to force them to confess to crimes they did not commit.

They were addressing a news conference to launch a report entitled "Children in Israeli Military Prisons" by Canon Riah Abu Al Asal of Nazareth's Episcopalian Church and three American researchers.

The study details 16 cases of alleged mistreatment of minors from the West Bank and occupied Gaza Strip. Israel consistently denies such reports.

"We concluded that the Israeli military government has a definite policy of abuse against Palestinian children," Kameel Nasr, a former English teacher at Chicago's DePaul University, said.

Speaking through an interpreter, the three aged 15 to 16 from Dheish refugee camp near Bethlehem, said they were beaten on the soles of their feet and their genitals.

They said they were seized by Israeli soldiers at their homes at night, hooded or blindfolded and made to stand with their arms extended for hours.

Riad Faraj, 15, said: "Sometimes at nights, five or six investigators came over and they were

completely drunk. It wouldn't matter (who you were) — you would start receiving blows all over your body without knowing why."

Adnan Shehadeh, 16, said he was forced to stand blindfolded for three days with his arms extended. Wail Tawfik, 16, said he was beaten, including on his testicles, while he stood with his arms outstretched.

The three boys said they were mistreated while detained at the army's Farah detention centre near Nablus. They said they served three to eight months in prison for allegedly throwing stones at Israeli soldiers.

Some cases in the report involved children as young as 12. Military officials said Farah was for "security prisoners" aged 14 and up, but some from aged 12 might be held because of such serious offences as firing weapons or hurling petrol bombs.

Arabs stage protest

Meanwhile, about 50 Israeli Arabs demonstrated Wednesday outside the education ministry to demand more classrooms and more teachers for the 230,000 Arab students in Israel.

The protesters accused the Israeli government of discriminating against the Arab sector by cutting funds from Arab schools while maintaining the same levels of funding for Jewish schools.

Peres abandons push for elections

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — The Labour Party of Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said on Wednesday that it was abandoning its efforts to bring about early elections over a proposed Middle East peace conference.

"We tried but we did not succeed," Labour Party spokeswoman Michal Cohen told Reuters. "An international peace conference cannot convene without elections."

She said Labour had decided not to work for new elections when parliament reconvenes this autumn, and would most likely wait until scheduled general elections in November 1988.

But Cohen emphasised that Mr. Peres would continue to discuss his plans for a peace conference in his talks with foreign leaders, including a meeting later this month with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze at the United Nations.

Mr. Peres campaigned intensively to bring about an early vote after right-wing Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir blocked his efforts to convene a peace conference. But the Labour leader failed to muster the 61 votes he needed to dissolve parliament.

"We concluded that we cannot get the 61 votes we need," Cohen said.

Chirac urges Habre to lay down arms in favour of diplomacy

PARIS (R) — France, struggling to avoid direct conflict with Libya, has publicly urged Chadian President Hissene Habre to lay down arms in favour of diplomacy to resolve a rapidly-escalating border dispute.

Prime Minister Jacques Chirac said on Tuesday that Chad-based French forces who on Monday shot down a Libyan bomber over the capital N'Djamena, would help defend the former French colony's territory.

But he said in a television interview that a dispute over the Aouzou Strip — a barren desert area between Chad and Libya claimed by both countries — should be negotiated or put to international arbitration.

"I hope ... that conflict over the so-called Aouzou Strip can be ended by negotiation or international arbitration and that peace

can be made," he said. Mr. Chirac spoke soon after Chad announced it had killed 1,713 Libyans and destroyed a total of 22 aircraft when it struck an airbase deep inside Libyan territory on Saturday.

The military communiqué, read on Chad radio, said 312 prisoners were taken after Saturday's attack on Maatan As Sarra, one of four Libyan air bases within striking distance of northern Chad.

It said Chad had destroyed 70 Soviet-made tanks, 30 infantry combat vehicles, and 22 multiple-launchers. The Libyan

base of Maatan As Sarra had ceased to exist, it said.

The casualty count is the highest reported by Chad since it launched a drive in January against Libyan forces then controlling much of the north of the country.

There has been no independent confirmation of the Chadian figures.

Libya, however, disputed Chadian claims to have destroyed Maatan As Sarra, saying those taken by Chad were either Libyan nationals living in Chad or "soldiers helping the forces of the Chadian Transitional Unity Government."

The official Libyan News Agency JANA, monitored in Beirut, on Tuesday quoted a communiqué from the General

Command of Arab Libyan Forces as saying they annihilated most of the attacking Chadian troops and destroyed their vehicles.

Mr. Chirac said both sides should try to promote peace. "Chad as well as Libya must make an effort in favour of its economy and of its people, which would be more useful than making war," he said.

France has 1,200 troops in Chad and supported Mr. Habre's campaign earlier this year to drive Libyan forces out of the central African country.

But Paris refused to back Mr. Habre when he captured the town of Aouzou, the administrative centre of the disputed strip, on Aug. 8. Libya, which had ruled Aouzou for 14 years, struck back and retook the town three weeks later.

Japanese foreign minister plans visit to Iraq

TOKYO (R) — Japan's foreign minister will probably visit Iraq this month for talks on protecting shipping in the Gulf, and Western diplomats said Japan was particularly well placed to mediate in the long war.

A Foreign Ministry official said preparations were going ahead for Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari to visit Baghdad on Sept. 18 and 19, but added that cabinet approval for the visit was needed before it could be officially announced.

Mr. Kuranari, who visited Iran in June on a similar mission, is also scheduled to meet Iranian President Hajatollah Ali Khamenei during the forthcoming session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

Asked about the purpose of the proposed meetings, the ministry official said:

"We would like to achieve peace. We are not a military player, so our diplomatic manoeuvres are concentrated on two efforts, direct contact with the Iran and Iraq authorities and efforts within the framework of the United Nations."

He said Mr. Kuranari would appeal to Iran to comply with the Security Council call for a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war, now in its seventh year.

"Japan is more dependant than any other country on oil supplies from the Gulf," said one diplomat. "But because it is unable to protect Japanese shipping by direct means, it has to place greater emphasis on diplomatic means."

The diplomat said Japanese tankers had been relatively free from attacks in the Gulf, so last week's rocket attacks on a Japanese tanker and another under charter to a Japanese company came as a shock to Tokyo.

He said Japan was following an active policy on the Gulf war, and added: "Their (diplomatic) activity is a reflection of very real Japanese interests."

Japan imports more than 50 per cent of its crude oil through the Gulf and industry sources said a resumption of sailings was vital to the Japanese economy.

U.S. Gulf operations have cost \$70m

WASHINGTON (AP) — The navy's escort operations in the Gulf are costing \$15 million to \$20 million a month in extra, unbudgeted expenses, the Defence Department has said.

The estimate — the first official cost figure to be released by the government since the convoy operations began in July — was outlined in a letter to congressional leaders by Deputy Defence Secretary William H. Taft IV.

The letter was released on the eve of Congress' return from a summer recess and appeared likely to sharpen debate about President Ronald Reagan's policy of extending military protection to reflagged Kuwaiti oil tankers.

Mr. Taft said the Reagan administration expects to submit a supplemental budget request in fiscal 1988, which begins Oct. 1, to give the navy extra money for the Gulf operations.

Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, meanwhile, said in a television interview that the United States would continue to maintain its expanded force in the Gulf until the threat to interna-

tional shipping diminished.

Appearing on ABC's Good Morning America program, Mr. Weinberger likened the Gulf commitment to the deployment of American forces in Europe in support of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

"We've been in Europe with troops to make sure there isn't a Soviet invasion for over 40 years and this (the Gulf operation) is a forward deployment of the navy," Mr. Weinberger said.

"I don't think it'll go 40 years, but we've been in the Gulf 40 years. In Europe, the objective is to prevent and deter a Soviet invasion of Europe. In the Gulf, it is to get shipping through, and as that gets more difficult because the threat increases, then we have to put more forces in."

Until Tuesday, the Pentagon had steadfastly declined to estimate the cost of the Gulf operations, characterising the expense as relatively small and incremental because the ships involved normally would be deployed somewhere anyway.

While offering no figures on the normal operating costs for the ships involved, Mr. Taft acknowledged in his letter that "higher ship and aircraft operating tempo, increased logistics support and the implementation of imminent danger pay for military personnel" serving in the Gulf were playing havoc with the navy's budget.

By the end of September, the navy's extra, unbudgeted expenses "will approach \$70 million," Mr. Taft wrote.

"While it is not possible to anticipate fiscal 1988 costs at this time, if the current level of activity is maintained, these would run \$15-\$20 million per month above the amounts provided for in our budget request."

More than two dozen navy ships are operating either inside the Gulf or in nearby waters. The force includes an aircraft carrier battle group and a battleship but the group deployed in the northern Arabian Sea plus 12 ships currently operating inside the Gulf.

China regrets missile attack on Kuwait

PEKING (R) — China said on Wednesday that it regretted Kuwait had been attacked by missiles, but did not mention reports that at least one of the missiles was Chinese.

"China is opposed to the extension of the Iran-Iraq war to a third country and regrets that Kuwait, a non-belligerent coun-

try, was attacked by missiles," a Foreign Ministry spokesman told a weekly news briefing.

Kuwait said on Sunday that Iran fired three missiles at its territory over a four-day period, and diplomats in Kuwait said they believed at least one of them was a Chinese Silkworm with a 450 kilogram warhead.

The official Kuwaiti announcement said one of the missiles hit the southern coast early last Friday, damaging houses and industrial facilities.

China has denied selling the Silkworm to Iran which in turn says it manufactures its own anti-ship missiles modelled on captured weapons.

Schmidt reportedly released in Bekaa

BEIRUT (AP) — A daily newspaper said Wednesday that former West German hostage Alfred Schmidt was released in Lebanon's Syrian-occupied Bekaa Valley and not in mainly Muslim south Beirut as was originally reported.

An Nahar, quoting unnamed security sources in Beirut, said Schmidt was released in the Bekaa Valley Monday after seven months in captivity and then driven to Damascus, the Syrian capital, for his flight home.

U.S. officials said Tuesday they are confident that West Germany will carry out its promise to try Mohammed Ali Hamadei for the 1985 hijacking of a Trans-World Jetliner and the slaying of U.S. serviceman passenger aboard.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater also told reporters the United States accepts Bonn's assurances that no deals on Hamadei were made in exchange for the release by his captors of West German hostage Alfred Schmidt, who was freed in Beirut Monday.

Saudi minister ends visit to Morocco

RABAT (R) — Saudi Arabian Defence Minister Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz left Morocco on Tuesday after an eight-day visit during which he had talks with King Hassan.

In a brief departure statement at Casablanca airport, he said they discussed the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq and bilateral cooperation, the Moroccan News Agency MAP reported.

Diplomats said they also discussed military cooperation and plans to hold an urgent Islamic summit to discuss the July violence in Mecca and the Gulf war.

Prince Sultan came here from neighbouring Algeria where he indicated that Saudi mediation efforts were continuing between Algeria and Morocco who have been divided for over eleven years by the conflict in the West-

ern Sahara.

Officials would neither confirm nor deny reports that Morocco had offered to place troops at Saudi Arabia's disposal to help Riyadh police.

According to Arab diplomats, Saudi Arabia requested the troops following the violence in Mecca on July 31 when over 400 pilgrims were killed after a demonstration staged by Iranians.

Battleship Iowa to leave for Mediterranean

WASHINGTON (R) — The battleship Iowa and five escort vessels will leave Atlantic ports on Thursday for routine deployment with the U.S. Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean, the Pentagon has said.

The Iowa, one of four such World War II American giants pressed back into service, will sail

from Norfolk, Virginia, with the cruiser Ticonderoga and the fleet oiler Cincinatti, the Defence Department announced.

The destroyers Dewey and Deyo will leave Charleston, South Carolina and the frigate Paul will sail from Mayport, Florida, to join up with the battle-

group.

The Iowa group is expected to remain in the Mediterranean for about six months and will be commanded by Rear Admiral Grant Sharp, commander of Cruiser-Destroyer Group Two based in Charleston, navy officials said.

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Queen states interest in assisting projects

SALT (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor has great interest in the projects of the Salt Development Corporation (SDC) and hopes to promote cooperation between Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) and SDC in cultural and educational fields, NHF director Mrs. In'am Al Mufti said Wednesday.

She said that NHF is interested in participating in the SDC's project for the restoration of traditional buildings in Salt, the development of traditional hand-

icrafts, a projected school for distinguished children, and tourist and cultural activities, as well.

She was speaking during a visit to Salt, where she met with SDC officials to discuss bilateral cooperation.

Mrs. Mufti also visited a number of old buildings of traditional and Islamic architectural styles and a centre for developing traditional crafts, established with help from the Italian government.

Arab Housing Day committee begins plans

AMMAN (Petra) — A newly-formed national committee charged with organising activities and celebrations for the Arab Housing Day will meet Thursday under the chairmanship of Mr. Shafiq Zawaidh, the committee chairman and director general of the Housing Corporation.

The committee, which met Tuesday, issued a statement in which it said the members discussed developing an informational plan for housing that would involve various sectors in the Kingdom. The plan would focus light on the need to handle all housing issues by considering the human element, as well as financial matters, and land, according to a committee statement following the meeting.

It said that the committee will execute a plan which entails enlisting the help of the Jordan Radio and Television Corporation to present a feature on the development of the housing sec-

tor in Jordan, in implementation of a resolution by the Arab housing ministers calling for the production of a feature on housing in the Arab World. The programme will be beamed to the Arab World through the Arab Satellite on Oct. 5, the Arab Housing Day.

This plan, the statement said, also entails a competition for designing low-cost housing, and will involve students from the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Jordan, in addition to seminars on housing in Jordan.

On Oct. 15, the celebration day, a number of housing projects will be opened in the Kingdom, the statement said.

The committee includes representatives from the Armed Forces, the Urban Development Department, the Jordan Valley Authority, the Housing Bank, the Jordanian Engineers Association, and the University of Jordan.



CROWN PRINCE VISITS BRIGADE: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Wednesday visited a unit of the Al Hussein Ibn Ali Brigade performing training in the field. He was met by the brigade's commander and senior army officers who briefed the Prince on the training programmes. Prince Hassan later toured the brigade's maintenance workshops (Petra photo).

Jordan to report at labour seminar

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in a seminar on management of employment offices and labour organised by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in Tunis on Sept. 12.

Ahmad Shawabeh, assistant director of employment at the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, said that he will attend the meeting and submit a

working paper on the employment situation in Jordan.

The paper, he said, contains detailed information on the country's policy in relation to human resources development, stimulating employment, and worker migration.

The report will also cover Jordanian laws and regulations

governing employment, as well as Jordan's views with regard to the ILO's agreements and recommendations, Mr. Shawabeh noted.

He added that the 28 participants in the seminar, from different Arab countries, will also exchange views on employment problems and methods for organising employment offices.

Forum Humanum plans to transform King Abdullah's home into museum

MAAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian chapter of Forum Humanum is making arrangements for transforming a home of the late King Abdullah, founder of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, into a museum.

An announcement here Wednesday said that a team from Forum Humanum, together with former minister and archaeologist Raef Nijem, visited the late King's home in the southern city of Maan, in order to study the prospect of the transformation.

The projected museum is expected to display documents, photographs, weapons, and traditional clothes and furniture,

which belonged to the King. King Abdullah arrived in Jordan in 1920 to form the nucleus of the armed forces for the Kingdom. His troops were then armed with rifles, German, and Turkish manufacture.

The King, who was only Prince then, set up the official military force in Transjordan in 1921. With this force, Prince Abdullah began the long and difficult struggle to build the country and strengthen its armed forces despite the conspiracies and challenges posed by the colonial powers.

According to the announcement on Wednesday, the Forum Humanum had laid the basis for transforming the King's old home into a historical museum after conducting maintenance and restoration work.

Mr. Nijem said that the home holds great historical significance for the Kingdom of Jordan.

During his visit to the old home, Mr. Nijem inspected the rooms and studied the prospect of refurbishing it to display the various historical items. He said that a detailed study will be made soon, before any restoration work can begin.

Conservatory offers new music courses

AMMAN (J.T.) — The National Music Conservatory (NMC) has announced that it is offering instruction to students in violin, viola, cello, clarinet, flute, saxophone, trumpet, and trombone.

The announcement, made through the Noor Al Hussein Foundation which established the conservatory, said that students can register for courses on Thursday, Sept. 10, Saturday, Sept. 12, and Sunday, Sept. 13, between 3:30 and 6:30 p.m.

The NMC, a project inaugurated in 1986, was visited by Her Majesty Queen Noor on Aug. 30. She watched a class of the brass and woodwind instructor-training course.

Jordanian writers group meets to discuss bylaws

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Writers Federation (JWF) general assembly is meeting today to discuss and endorse bylaws and internal regulations prepared by the federation's board of directors.

JWF President Hani Al Amad said that the bylaws had been discussed in detail at a series of meetings by the board in hope that they would help promote the work of writers and stimulate cultural and literary activity in the Kingdom.

While preparing the laws, the board members considered new and different factors because they wanted the revised statute to address the developments of the changing world, and, in particular, the cultural and educational

transformations occurring in Jordan and in the Arab World at large, Dr. Amad noted.

He said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the board has introduced a proposal for JWF branches, which entails the establishment of five branches around the country, which will be given wide powers.

The new laws include regulations and procedures for accepting new JWF members and the election of the association's president and board members, Dr. Amad added.

Last June, the government decided to dissolve the Jordanian Writers Association (JWA), and in July it was decided that a Jordanian Writers Federation would be established in its place.

Prince Nayef meets with Armed Forces chief

AMMAN (Petra) — Saudi Arabia's minister of interior, Prince Nayef Ibn Abdul Aziz, conferred on Wednesday with Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.

The meeting at the Armed Forces General Headquarters was attended by Interior Minister Rajai Dajani, Army Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Fathi Abu Taleb, Saudi Arabia's Ambassador to Jordan Mohammad Al Issa, and Jordan's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Mohammad Rasoul Al Keilani.

Also on Wednesday, Prince Nayef visited the Public Security Department (PSD) and met with its director, Lt.-Gen. Abdul Hadi Al Majali and senior officers.

Accompanied by Mr. Dajani, the Saudi minister toured the department's various sections and called at Al Muhajireen Security Centre, where he was briefed on the centre's services.

Lt.-Gen. Majali, in an address welcoming Prince Nayef, paid tribute to the strong relations be-

tween Jordan and Saudi Arabia, which, he said, are being fostered under the leadership of Their Majesties King Hussein and King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia. The director outlined the PSD's efforts to promote the work of security centres in the Kingdom, as well as modernisation measures currently being introduced in his department.

Referring to the Iranian-organised riots in the holy city of Mecca during this year's pilgrimage, Lt.-Gen. Majali said the perpetrators had violated the sanctity of the holy shrines and caused the death of innocent people.

Later on Wednesday Prince Nayef paid a visit to the Police Training School in Zarqa, where he watched a sports and military exercise festival, which included

performances by women students, Badia and border police students, policemen from the public security brigade, and the private police forces.

Prince Nayef was accompanied by Mr. Dajani and Lt.-Gen. Majali.

The Saudi minister then visited the equestrian field, where he watched performances including, jumping, stabling by sword and spear, and fire games. The performances were also viewed by Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali, and a number of Cabinet members, senate deputies, and senior military and civil officials.

At the end of the tour of the equestrian school Lt.-Gen. Majali presented Prince Nayef with an original Arabian horse.

Prince Nayef visited the Civil Defence Department, in the company of Mr. Dajani Tuesday evening. They met with the department's director, Lt.-Gen. Khaled Tarawneh, and senior aides who briefed them on civil defence operations in the country.



Prince Nayef Ibn Abdul Aziz meets with Armed Forces Commander in Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker at the Armed Forces General Headquarters on Wednesday

JD 1.5m allotted for hospital

IRBID (Petra) — Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh said Wednesday that his ministry is revising designs for a hospital to be built at the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) near Irbid and has allocated JD 1.5 million for the project.

Dr. Hamzeh, speaking during a tour of the Irbid Governorate, said that the new hospital, which will be named King Abdullah Hospital, will have 643 beds and will include an outpatient depart-

ment, an emergency section, laboratories, and other facilities. The hospital, though owned and operated by the Ministry of Health, will offer training to JUST medical students, Dr. Hamzeh noted.

During the tour, the minister visited the villages of Hartha, Qamim and Beit Yaffa, and laid the foundation stones for the construction of primary health centres in each. Speaking at the ceremonies, Dr. Hamzeh said that the centres will offer services

as part of a ministry plan to provide primary health care to all regions in the Kingdom.

The plan calls for the establishment of 75 such health centres, which will provide general health care, maternity and paediatric care, laboratory services, and dental treatment, Dr. Hamzeh noted. He said that his ministry has already distributed 546,000 medical cards to citizens benefiting from these centres' free medical treatment.

University president receives Soviets

AMMAN (J.T.) — University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali Wednesday received a visiting delegation from the University of Tashkent, Soviet Union, headed by Nicolai Serguei, Tashkent University vice president.

Dr. Majali briefed the delegation members on the university's establishment and development, and the programmes it offers to its students. In addition he explained the university's educational policy, which is based on interaction and full participation of students.

The two university presidents are expected to sign an executive programme of cooperation between their respective institutions on Monday. Under the plan, the universities will exchange visits and educational and cultural expertise, a Soviet embassy official told the Jordan Times on Wednesday.

In a telephone interview, a senior embassy official said that the executive programme is aimed at enhancing the general framework of cooperation between the two universities.

He added that the delegation will meet on Saturday with Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin to discuss

the educational situation in the occupied Arab territories. The delegation members will be briefed by Mr. Dudin on the Israeli measures against Palestinian students and the closure of universities.

They will also meet with the secretary general of the Ministry of Higher Education.

Iraqi jets slam Iranian targets in 'day of revenge'

(Continued from page 1)

staged by large numbers of Iraqi fighter jets on 13 different targets deep in Iran," INA said.

Kuwait, repeatedly accused by Tehran of siding with Iraq in the seven-year-old war, has been hit by three unexpected missiles in the last eight days.

Kuwaiti officials confirmed only one, but appealed for U.N. action and said five Iranian diplomats were being expelled because of Tehran's "aggression."

Kuwait, accusing Iran of firing a Chinese-made Silkworm missile at its southern coast Friday, said it was ignoring other Iranian misdeeds to avoid complicating Mr. Perez de Cuellar's peace quest.

Iraq has pledged to defend Kuwait against Iranian attacks. The missiles were apparently fired from Iranian-occupied territory in Iraq's southern Fao Peninsula.

Kuwait has expelled five Iranian diplomats, but denied an Iranian statement that a sixth was being deported. It said Mohammad Bagheri, Tehran's charge d'affaires, was one of the five.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz was quoted in a press interview as saying Baghdad is willing to have the international court in the Hague, the Dutch capital, decide who started the war in September, 1980.

Diplomatic sources said that appeared to suggest a move towards a compromise with Iran, which has demanded that Iraq be condemned as the "aggressor" before any peace talks can begin. Iran claimed on Wednesday a letter to the United Nations from Kuwait's foreign minister accusing Iran of firing a missile at

Kuwaiti territory and other hostile acts contained baseless allegations.

"The fabrications contained in that letter are only examples of the attempt by Iraq and its allies to justify and further intensify the illegitimate military presence of foreign hegemonic powers in the Persian Gulf," Iranian U.N. Charge d'Affaires Mohammad Zarf said.

In a note to Mr. Perez de Cuellar, he said Iran categorically rejected the "baseless allegations contained in the letter of the foreign minister of Kuwait addressed to Your Excellency dated 4 Sept. 1987."

Mr. Zarf said Iran had always maintained that the "interference of third parties in the imposed war would only further escalate the situation and has, therefore, taken every measure to prevent the internationalisation of the imposed war."

The Kuwaiti letter, in addition

to complaining that Iran had fired a missile that damaged some buildings in the emirate, also referred to a recent Iranian attack on the Kuwaiti container ship Jabal Ali. Kuwait had refrained from reporting several other Iranian attacks, it added.

The United States on Wednesday criticised Iraqi attacks on Iran and appealed to both sides in the Gulf war to stop fighting and allow the United Nations to implement its ceasefire order.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman told reporters the visit to Tehran and Baghdad by Mr. Perez de Cuellar should be the centre of attention.

"This Iraqi action is certainly not helpful when we believe that both sides should be focussing on U.N. efforts to bring a comprehensive end to the war," he said.

"We urge both sides to support that mission and exercise restraint," Redman said.

Moscow promises to press for ceasefire in Gulf

(Continued from page 1)

the drafting of sanctions against Iran if it refuses to go along with the U.N. body's decision.

But Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovsky told a news conference the Soviets hope U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar can make progress towards a settlement when he travels to Tehran later this week.

Until then, Mr. Petrovsky said, "the Soviet Union is acting in such a way to create the best possible conditions for implementation of Resolution 598."

Mr. Perez de Cuellar is to

provide the Security Council with an evaluation of the positions of both sides, he said.

"Then on the basis of that counsel he shall be able to judge what could be done," Mr. Petrovsky said. "We can look at the rich arsenal of instruments contained in the U.N. charter to be used for settling conflicts and preventing an escalation."

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Larjani arrived in Moscow Monday and met Tuesday with Foreign Minister Shevardnadze and Mr. Ryzhkov. Both officials stressed in meeting with Mr. Larjani that the

Khatib: Jordan is shocked

(Continued from page 1)

"That's what we expect Shamir to tell Biton," the spokesman added.

Perez aides said the Labour leader would also refuse to accept the Arafat message and had no intention of dealing with the PLO.

The Israeli Hadashot daily said Wednesday it was a "concrete proposal" for peace talks.

But Shamir spokesman Zachi Hanegbi rejected the message outright.

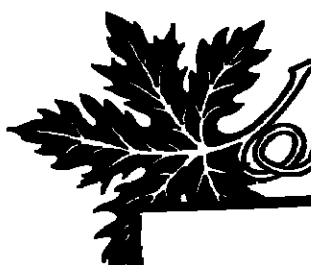
"There is no chance the prime minister will accept any such message which is just a public relations ploy from a terrorist organisation seeking to legitimise itself," said Hanegbi in an interview with Israel Radio.

Yossi Beilin, political director of Mr. Arafat's office, also discounted Mr. Arafat's message and told the radio: "He says whatever sounds good to

the audience he's addressing."

Beilin said his main objections to Mr. Arafat's remarks were the PLO leader's inclusion of Resolutions 242 and 338 with the 1947 U.N. resolution to partition Palestine.

Jewish leaders approved the partition plan at the time but Israel has since rejected the formula.



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Is there a lesser evil?

NO MATTER how one looks at it, it is difficult to judge which is the greater evil: Israel producing its own Lavi fighter or Israel acquiring sophisticated American-made warplanes to add to its already swelling arsenal.

Washington has applauded the Israeli decision to scrap the Lavi project and has offered sweeteners to the Jewish state in the form of 75 F-16 fighter planes and possible co-production of fighter aircraft. But Israel's dismissal of the Lavi project is in no way a consolation to the Arabs; if anything, it will result in the replenishment of the Israeli arsenal and still leave the Israelis a great deal of money to use for other forms of military build-up, which Washington sees as essential for the Jewish state to maintain its "qualitative edge" over the Arabs. What the compensation will mean to the Israelis was described by one Israeli defence official recently. "Instead of shooting down the Syrian aircraft with Lavis, we'll shoot them down with F-16s and have some money to spare for the army and navy," he said.

As Arabs, we fail to see how this compensation will further the search for peace in the region. If the Americans are truly concerned with the peace process, they would think twice before honouring the offers put forth by Israeli Finance Minister Hoshie Nissim for alternative U.S. aid to Israel, in replacement for Lavi funding. Hopefully the American officials will remember, when they confer with Nissim this week, that had the Lavi project been completed, it would have been less than half Israeli financed. The U.S. had paid most of the \$1.5 billion used for the seven-year project. This amount was over and beyond the \$3.8 billion Israel receives annually in U.S. aid. And, even though the Lavi was rated by the Israeli army itself as a lesser defence priority, the Israeli aircraft industry found the fighter bomber, which could carry Israeli nuclear warheads, important enough to commit Israeli and American resources to this "great national project." Similar U.S. government contracts to Israeli arms manufacturers have raised complaints from U.S. counterparts over the years, as have the Israelis' exemption from American trade restrictions and import duties. However, no change has occurred.

Could it be because U.S. companies, such as American Electronics Laboratories, Aeronautes Corporation of America, Gerber Scientific, Control Data Corporation, Motorola, General Telephone and Electronics, Rockefeller Brothers and Associates, and Rand Information Systems have invested heavily in Israeli arms firms?

The Wall Street Journal reported six years ago that, "Israelis complain that, in criticising Israeli hawkish military policies, the U.S. overlooks the fact the Israel has served as some kind of 'control lab' for U.S. weapons development."

Those who oppose such policies, which give Israel more arms and money to perpetrate destruction and misery against Arabs in the occupied territories and in Lebanon, should raise their voices, along with Arab leaders, in objection. Perhaps, then, the world will understand that the U.S. must wash its hands clean of its share in Israeli crimes against Arabs before it comes preaching about peace and justice in the region.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: A new stage in education

THE conclusion of the national conference on education marks the beginning of a new stage in the country's educational system which will witness reform and development of educational programmes at all levels. The success or failure of the conference and the efforts put into it can only be determined through the practical application of its different resolutions and recommendations. The conference regarded King Hussein's speech at the opening ceremony as a basic document, providing guidelines for the experts, the educators and the education officials in planning out the future of the young generations. The principles contained in the speech which tackled the past, the present and the future, and also the resolutions passed by the conferees, underline the importance of a new serious action for the future. We believe that in the resolutions and the recommendations there are good principles paving the way for a successful start; and so they should never be out of our thinking in the process of introducing reform. The resolutions and the King's speech linked school with university education and society with the homeland as a whole. This concept will no doubt help to infuse a new, sound educational system that can help the new generations to interact with the requirements and the needs of the modern age. These principles can help us work faithfully and with great courage to build and also defend our nation and our identity. The resolutions of the national conference entail drastic change that should be done to our educational system to offer better knowledge and a better life for the coming generations.

Al Dustour: Committee continues mission

THE seven member Arab committee touring Arab and foreign countries is striving to bring about a general consensus among world nations on the need to bring an end to the Iran-Iraq war. The committee which has been entrusted with its mission by the Arab League, is seeking an implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 that can bring peace to the Gulf region. The overwhelming support accorded to the resolution by world nations has no doubt deprived Iran of the chance to manoeuvre and to exploit differences that normally exist between the superpowers. It also placed the Tehran rulers face to face with the world community which insists on an end to the conflict — as the first step on the path towards peace. The committee members' visit to Peking and Moscow assumes an added importance in view of the current escalation of war activity in the Gulf region and the diplomatic efforts being exerted elsewhere for ending the war. The committee's efforts are needed to bring more pressure to bear on the Iranian rulers who desperately strive to prolong the conflict which serves their own interests. We believe that the efforts of the seven member committee should be accorded favourable response and backing from all countries of the world, because these efforts reflect the Arab Nation's genuine desire to reach peace. We hope that these efforts will win more and more support and achieve more success in the international arena so that more pressure would be exerted on Iran to accept peace.

Reagan M.E. peace initiative lost in Gulf crisis

By Saul Friedman

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. —

Five years ago, in the wake of Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon, President Reagan interrupted his annual California vacation to propose a peace plan for the Middle East. And in his nationally televised speech, he issued an appeal and a warning. "It's time for us all, in the Middle East and around the world, to call a halt to conflict, hatred and prejudice," the president said. "If we miss this chance to make a fresh start, we may look back on this moment from some later vintage point and realise how much that failure cost us all."

But there has been no peace. And since the president's warning, more than 300 Americans, including 241 servicemen in Beirut and 37 crewmen aboard the Stark in the Gulf, have been among the thousands who have died in the maelstrom of the Middle East.

The United States has also suffered from terrorism, with the seemingly endless captivity of Americans as hostages in Lebanon and the embarrassment of the secret arms sales to Iran. And now, more than 40 American naval vessels and 25,000 service personnel have been sent to help keep the peace in the Gulf.

Ironically, the latest crisis in the Gulf has obscured the anniversary of Reagan's Middle East peace plan. And even as White House officials who have accompanied the president here on this year's vacation have de-

fended the growing American military commitment in the Gulf, administration and outside experts on the Middle East say the crisis there has stolen attention from the larger issues of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the paralysed peace process.

Administration officials also acknowledge privately that Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz, while preoccupied with the Gulf, have been reluctant to take a more active role in Middle East peace initiatives.

Recently, as the Soviet Union has increased its interest and its presence in the Middle East, State Department officials suggested that Shultz pay the region a visit, sources said, in an effort to revive the peace process. But Shultz rejected the suggestions, an official said, because he is more interested in other issues and saw little hope for progress.

"The Gulf has become so dominant, the Arab-Israeli problem and the peace process have slipped to the bottom of the administration's agenda," said William Quandt, a former National Security Council expert on the Middle East who is now a senior fellow with the Brookings Institution, a centrist Washington think-tank. "And the president is more interested in Central America and getting an arms control agreement."

An administration official who asked to remain anonymous acknowledged that Shultz has declined to become more active in

the Middle East because he was "very disappointed" by the failure of the initiative five years ago. "After investing his personal prestige, he threw up his hands and takes the view that the opposing sides are simply not close enough to get anything going that will lead somewhere," the official said.

But Robert Hunter, a former National Security Council staff member and now a senior researcher on the Middle East for the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, said, "there is never any good time to make peace in the Middle East, but we pay for not trying."

He added, "the Middle East peace initiative never went anywhere because the president and Shultz did not follow it up in the way Jimmy Carter personally became involved in getting an Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty."

"Reagan's plan was a good one in many respects, but it needed the active engagement of the president," Hunter said. "Now, just as we were drawn into the fighting in Lebanon after the president's speech because we didn't follow up our policy, we are being drawn further into the dangers in the Gulf, without knowing where it will end."

The president's 1982 Middle East speech came as the last of 1,000 American Marines left Lebanon after successfully protecting the evacuation of the forces of Palestine Liberation Organisation, which had been besieged by the invading Israelis.

The United States had agreed to protect the PLO forces as a way of maintaining American credibility among Arab states in the region while balancing the interests of Arabs and Israelis.

In his proposal, Reagan called for steps leading to a Palestinian homeland in association with Jordan and he declared his opposition to further Israeli settlements on the West Bank of the Jordan River.

The conservative Israeli government of Menachem Begin rejected the proposal. And on Sept. 9, when Lebanese President Bashir Gemayel was assassinated, a shaky peace agreement in his country was shattered. Beirut exploded with renewed violence, Palestinian refugees were massacred by Christian forces while their Israeli allies stood by, and Reagan made the fateful decision of calling the Marines back to Lebanon for an indefinite period to help maintain peace.

Even had chaos not returned to Lebanon, there was little chance the peace initiative would have succeeded, the administration official said. As he explained: "Although more moderate leaders in Israel were pleased with the proposal, the Begin government took the momentum away with endless negotiations in Lebanon and objections to the proposal."

The agreement in Lebanon became a worthless piece of paper and the Israelis were happy that there was no movement on the peace proposal.

Hunter said: "To achieve

movement, you've got to get down in the dirt with Israel and get a bit tough (with Israel). But the administration has been unable to do that." And Hunter noted that although Carter had sponsored the Egypt-Israel agreement, he suffered politically by alienating many American Jewish groups.

The administration official conceded that trying to promote peace in the Middle East "is very tough politically. You have to make sure the Israeli government is on board before you can do anything, and today the Israeli government is so splintered, little can be done."

The peace plan was also attacked by Arab countries, such as Syria and Libya, and, according to Quandt, the administration "had not thought out a follow-up strategy for working with Egypt and Jordan." And the United States left the president's initiative hanging "until it could get the mess in Lebanon straightened out," he added.

The Lebanon mess only got worse, and when 241 servicemen died in the bombing of their barracks in October 1983, it has tensed the American withdrawal from Lebanon and from what was left of Reagan's attempts at peacekeeping.

Reagan said repeatedly that the United States had taken an active role in Lebanon to challenge the Soviet Union and Syria. But Yehya Sadovsky, a Brookings expert on Arab and Islamic

politics, said one result of the long American withdrawal from the Arab-Israeli issue, has been an increased influence of the Soviets and Syria.

Nevertheless, said Quandt, after the carnage suffered by the Marines, "Shultz became embittered and his whole attitude changed. From that time on, the president's initiative remained only on the books."

A senior official argued, "the president's statement is still out there and represents the basis for peace. It's a set of principles, a starting point." And he added that the United States has been nudging the Middle East toward an international peace conference. But Israel rejects that idea, the Soviets have claimed the right to attend and the United States has so far rejected Soviet participation while refusing to press Israel to accept such a conference.

"Once again we're not following up," said Quandt, because of the preoccupation with the Gulf and other issues. The administration official added, "the Israelis are unable to move, and the Arabs are equally split over such issues as the Iran-Iraq war."

But while the official saw hope that the American presence in the Gulf could win friends among Arab states, Hunter said, "the Gulf war simply will add the problem of fundamentalism to the festering Arab-Israeli conflict. And we might again be caught in the middle" — Los Angeles Times.

Perez de Cuellar hoping to revive U.N.'s peace-making role

By Anthony Goodman
Reuter

UNITED NATIONS — Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar's forthcoming trip to Iran and Iraq, his second in just over two years, is the latest in a string of Gulf peace moves marked so far by a singular lack of success.

Since the war erupted seven years ago, the Security Council has adopted eight resolutions, as well as a spate of less formal statements, calling for a halt to the fighting.

This time, however, the mid-manned Peruvian diplomat has the backing of a ceasefire resolution adopted last July 20 that holds out the threat of possible sanctions if ignored.

This was one of the council's

rare resolutions invoking the U.N. charter's mandatory provisions.

While Iraq said it would comply if Iran did, Tehran has issued a series of statements criticising the draft but never actually rejecting it.

The main purpose of the trip by the 67-year-old secretary general, who had a quadruple heart bypass operation last year, is to try to obtain Iran's acceptance of the resolution, which also calls for a withdrawal of forces to the internationally recognised boundaries and an exchange of prisoners of war.

Failure of the U.N. chief's mission is certain to spur redoubled efforts by the United States to impose an arms embargo on Iran. Washington, which originally

set a weekend deadline for Iran's compliance, has said it was now awaiting the results of the secretary general's mission.

But even if he fails, many U.N. diplomats believe a sizeable proportion of the council's 15 members, including some of the big powers, would remain reluctant to vote for such a drastic step as sanctions.

They have a variety of reasons for not wishing to offend Tehran — whether as oil-purchasers, arms-sellers, because of Iran's strategic importance, or because some of their nationals are being held hostage in Lebanon by pro-Iranian groups.

Earlier in the Gulf war, Perez de Cuellar had some success in trying to mitigate its effects, obtaining an undertaking by the

two sides in June 1984 to refrain from attacking purely civilian areas.

Small U.N. teams were posted in both Tehran and Baghdad to investigate alleged violations.

But the shaky accord soon collapsed as the war reached new heights of fury, with U.N. experts confirming the use of chemical weapons by Iraq, both sides pounding towns and cities, and an escalation of the "tanker war" at sea.

After spending little more than one day each in Tehran and Baghdad in April 1985, Perez de Cuellar reported optimistically that while the "positions of the two sides remain wide apart, there exists a real basis for pursuing efforts to bring closer the prospect of peace."

By November 1986, after further contacts with Iranian and Iraqi officials but without again visiting the area, he concluded that their positions "show no degree of coincidence which would prove a basis for the presentation of specific proposals designed to give effect to" the council's most recent ceasefire call.

Success on his forthcoming peace mission would put a much-needed feather in the cap of both the United Nations and Perez de Cuellar, now one year into his second five-year term.

Although the world body has many peace-making irons in the fire, success has eluded its most recent efforts.

Perez de Cuellar's early months as U.N. chief were marked by a widely-bailed, but in

the end unsuccessful, bid to defuse the 1982 crisis between Argentina and Britain over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

After coming close to a resolution of the Cyprus problem two years ago, the secretary general has seen his attempts to reunite the island's Greek and Turkish communities grind to a standstill.

In addition to the perennial problems of Namibia (South West Africa) and the Arab-Israeli conflict, the United Nations remains deeply involved in efforts to obtain the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan and the repatriation of millions of Afghan refugees. Those talks, which resume in Geneva next week, have been dragging on since 1982.

Israeli study: Arab armies stronger

The following report is reprinted from the Israeli newspaper, The Jerusalem Post.

By Joshua Brilliant

TEL AVIV — The cabinet was wise to scrap the Lavi in favour of alternate weapon systems because the Arab armies have become bigger and faster than ever before while the Israeli army has reached the limits of its ability to grow, Aluf Aharon Yariv, head of the Tel Aviv University's Jaffe Centre for Strategic Studies, said on Monday.

Speaking at a press conference here to mark the release of the centre's Middle East Military Balance report, Yariv said the Arab armies are bigger, faster, better equipped, more strongly fortified and in possession of greater fire power than in the past. Under these conditions, it would be difficult for Israel to quickly decide the outcome of a war by advancing into enemy territory.

On the other hand there have been some positive developments for Israel. The Arabs are short of money and skilled manpower, partly because of the drop in oil prices. The Iran-Iraq war has divided the Arab World, leaving no anti-Israel coalition at present, and there is peace — albeit cold — with Egypt.

Therefore, Yariv argued, Israel should take advantage of the situation to advance the peace process. Israel is now in a position of strength and no one is threatening it but Israel's strategic position cannot improve, he said. "It can only worsen."

His gloomy prediction was based in part on the centre's 462-page report, published in cooperation with The Jerusalem Post.

The centre's figures show that the number of tanks in Egypt, Jordan and Syria grew from 4,500 in 1973 to 7,300 last year. In Israel the number rose from 2,000 to some 4,000.

Egypt, Jordan and Syria had 750 combat planes in 1973 compared with Israel's 300. Israel now has some 630 planes — but its three neighbours have 1,400. The balance sheet would have appeared much worse if Iraq would have ended the war with Iran and turned its attention westward.

The Arab armies are also qualitatively better. They have ac-

quired modern, first-rate, weapons like F-15s, F-16s, MiG-29s and Tornado fighters. Jordan has the American M-60A3 and Syria has some 1,000 T-72s. These countries also have missiles enabling them to hit major Israeli cities.

In spite of efforts to recruit better-educated soldiers, the Arabs suffer from a shortage of proper technical personnel.

But on the whole the qualitative gap is narrowing, said Yariv, a former chief of military intelligence. He warned that if this process continued the Arabs might try to settle the dispute by military means.

Part of the centre's study concerns the unconventional balance of power. No information is available about the Arabs' biological warfare capabilities, the authors said. But Yifat Aharoni, Levran, who compiled much of the study, noted that Egypt has had chemical weapons for years, Syria has transferred material to Iran and is advancing towards development of chemical warheads for its own missiles.

Moreover, the taboo on the use of gas was broken by Iraq in the Gulf war, the report said.

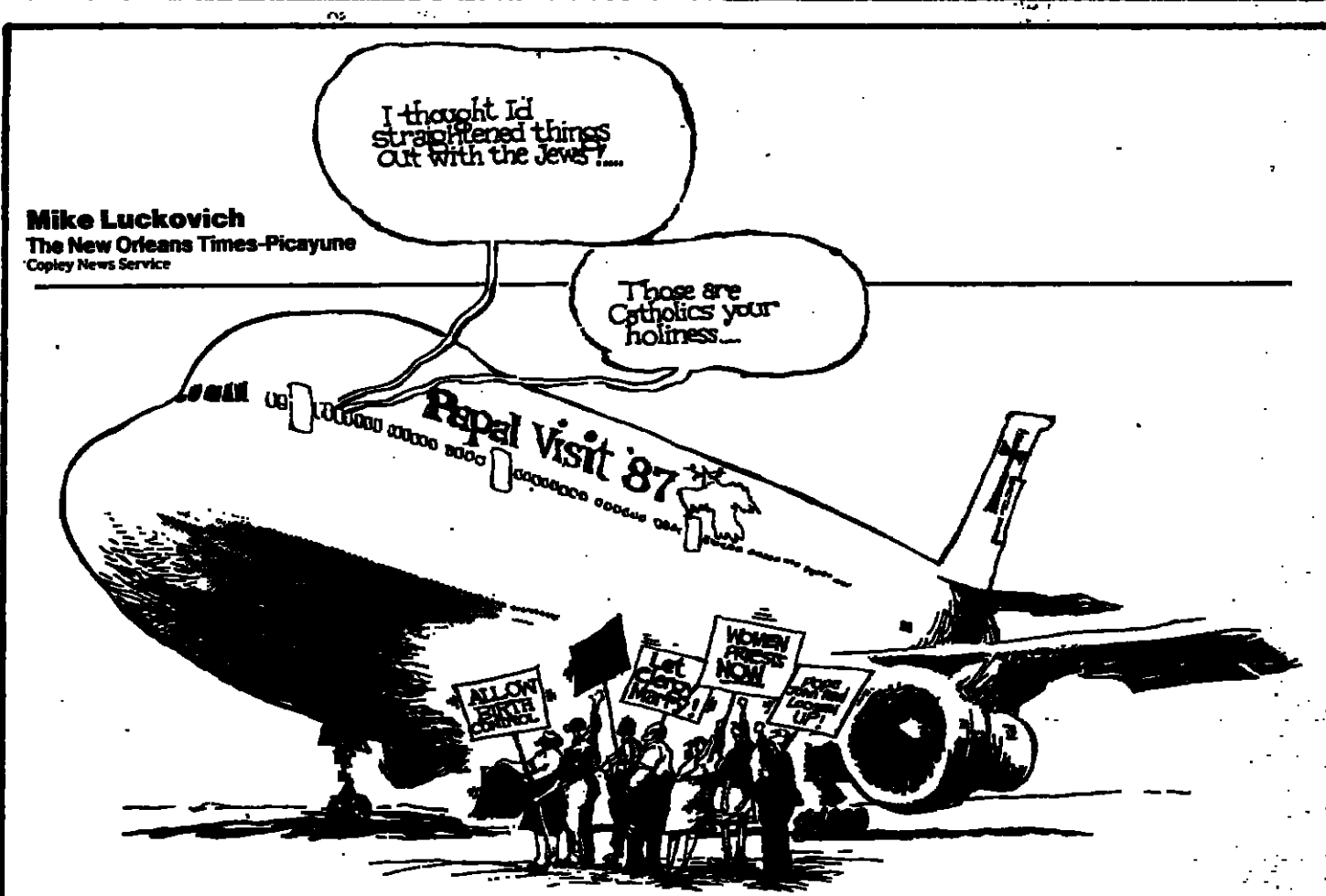
The report said the principal Arab states either possess, or can acquire, chemical weaponry.

"The Arab chemical warfare threat against Israel is a fact, it can only grow in the future," the report said. "It constitutes one form of Arab reply and counter-deterrent to Israel's nuclear advantage and to other advanced weapons systems Israel may possess."

"While chemical weaponry does not offer a means of deciding a conflict, it could provide considerable localised results, particularly insofar as its first use generates a surprise effect and could produce a heavy toll in casualties," the report added.

Turning to nuclear developments, the report said that Israel and Pakistan were ahead of the other countries in the area, though Yariv told foreign correspondents that to the best of his knowledge, "Israel does not have nuclear weapons."

Whatever the truth is, fear of Israel's nuclear capability has not deterred the enemy, Levran said, partly because the major Arab countries can retaliate with a chemical attack.



Pope's visit to U.S. stirs discord at every stop

By Matt Spethnick
Reuter

MIAMI — When Pope John Paul visited the United States in 1979 he won American admirers, Catholic and non-Catholic, with his warmth and outgoing style. But eight years later some say the honeymoon is over and in his nine-city U.S. tour from September 10 to 19, the Pope seems likely to encounter protest and discord at every stop.

Feminists, AIDS activists, homosexual rights advocates, Jewish organisations, pro-abortion groups and disgruntled Roman Catholics are just some of the groups planning to air publicly their grievances.

John Paul is only the second pontiff to visit the United States — Paul VI came to New York in 1965.

Americans now appear more critical of his performance and sceptical of his orthodox stands on abortion, birth control, artificial insemination and the role of women.

According to a recent Los Angeles Times poll, most U.S.

Catholics disagree with Vatican teachings on major issues.

"The honeymoon is over," said Jean Clark, chief spokeswoman for the National Organisation for Women (NOW). "A lot of Americans have real problems with this Pope."

Church officials played down the planned demonstrations, saying that adoring crowds would far outnumber protesters. But privately some acknowledged concern that controversy would overshadow the Pope's message.

"A few small-minded people are making problems," said Reverend Noel Bennett, a top organiser in Miami, the first stop on the tour. "They will be drowned out by the voices of millions of others welcoming the holy father."

At many stops, the Pope is likely to face pro-abortion groups, who in turn will encounter counter-demonstrations by Catholic lay groups and anti-abortion forces, some of whom have vowed to form human barricades to block entrances to abortion clinics and create what they call "abortion-free zones" in

cities he visits.

In Miami, Jewish groups are expected to picket to show outrage against John Paul's meeting last June with Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, who is alleged to have hidden his wartime past.

Some Jewish leaders said they would not decide whether to attend a scheduled meeting with John Paul in Miami until after the Pope's unprecedented dialogue with Jewish representatives in Italy this week.

AIDS is also emerging as a hot issue of the upcoming tour. Gay rights advocates, upset over the Pope's recent anti-homosexual declaration and what they see as indifference to AIDS victims, plan protests in several cities.

When the Pope visits San Francisco, he will see one of the cities most deeply affected by the AIDS crisis. The city's large and politically active gay community has one of the highest incidences of the deadly disease.

The Pope will conduct a mass at San Francisco's Mission Dolores Basilica, where 100 seats have been set aside for AIDS patients, friends and family.

Cureaids Now, a Miami group, is planning a rally near the Vizcaya Mansion, where the Pope is to meet President Reagan.

In Washington, an alliance of feminists, homosexual groups and nuns disillusioned with the church's refusal to ordain women priests has organised a series of rallies in front of the Vatican embassy.

Similar local coalitions are planning demonstrations when the Pope stops in New Orleans, Detroit and Los Angeles.

The Pope's planned stopover in Columbia, South Carolina — part of the fundamentalist "Bible belt" where anti-Catholic sentiment historically flourished — has also struck a note of discord.

In an apparent snub, Reverend Adrian Rogers, president of the 14.6 million-member Southern Baptist Convention, has declined the Pope's invitation to attend a worship service with other Christian leaders.

"I do not intend to meet with him for reasons that are best not expressed in the public media," he told reporters.

Why King Oedipus was wrong

Scientists trying to answer some of the baffling questions of kinship have focused on a variety of relationships from tadpoles to tragic heroes. Pamela Wells writes in the *Guardian* on how a myth has become an enigma

LONDON — KIN selection theory explains why it would pay, in genetic terms, to behave favourably towards relatives. A suicide altruistic gene — one which made people more likely to jump into a river to save others from drowning — would spread through the population if more than two siblings, or more than four grandchildren, or more than eight first cousins, were saved as a result. Enough copies of that gene would be preserved to compensate for the death of the altruist.

It is obviously much easier to behave altruistically towards your relatives if you have some means of estimating the chances that they really are relatives. Humans are quite good at performing visual, auditory and olfactory discrimination tasks from a very early age.

Infants can distinguish their own mother from other women by voice alone at 24 hours of age, the smell of their mother's breast pad within six days of age, and a photograph of their mother when they are four to seven weeks old. Mothers can distinguish by smell between the clothes of their own infants and those of unfamiliar infants within a few days after birth, and can also smell the difference between otherwise identical clothes worn by two of their own children. Other researchers have shown that mothers can recognise the cry of their own infant within 48 hours of birth. We certainly don't lack the capacity to recognise kin.

On the whole, we "know" who our relatives are; we know because we have grown up with them, or because other people have told us about them.

This fact has had two unfortunate, and paradoxically almost contradictory, effects. It has led some people to believe that kin recognition can't occur in species other than humans (because other species do not possess the concept of kinship); and it has led other people to believe that kin recognition doesn't occur in humans (because the concept of kinship renders it redundant).

But we now know that other species can recognise their relatives — or, at least, behave as if they could. Tadpoles can tell the difference between siblings, half-siblings and unrelated individuals; they seem to prefer to spend time associating with their siblings. Sweet bees behave as though they could distinguish between 14 different degrees of relatedness, and are much more likely to let closely related bees into the hive. Monkeys, rats, birds, even sponges and bacteria, are all capable of modifying their behaviour in some way on the basis of their relatedness to other members of their species. You don't even need a brain in order to recognise your relatives: many plants "recognise" self versus more or less unrelated pollens in the absence not only of a brain but a nervous system as well.

Now for the second point: that we don't perform kin recognition in the way that animals do because we have the concept of kinship.

Why is the concept of kinship in humans a problem? The main difficulty is that, in many cultures, there is only partial overlap between kinship terminology and actual biological relatedness. Even in our own society, the term "aunt" is often used to refer to people who are not really aunts. Biological relatives are those with whom we share genes by descent: parents and offspring, brothers and sisters, cousins, grandparents and grandchildren, and so on. But husbands and wives are not biological relatives (except in unusual circumstances such as cousin marriages), and neither are stepchildren and stepchildren. There are some cultures in which the same kinship term is used to refer to people of different degrees of biological relatedness. Among the Ye'kwana Indians of Venezuela, the word "brother" covers four different categories. These range from individuals (sharing 50 per cent of their genes), as do true brothers and sisters) to individuals (sharing only 12.5 per cent of their genes), as do first cousins, or great-grandparents and great-grandchildren).

Which is the better predictor of human behaviour — kinship terminology or biological relatedness? Anthropological studies of the Ye'kwana leave us in little doubt. The Ye'kwana spend more time interacting with their biological relatives the closer the degree of relatedness, even though their kinship terminology does not correspond with this.

How close do we behave when we know (or think we know) who our relatives are? Along with other species, we can behave altruistically to kin in general, and we can invest time and effort in raising children. But humans can store resources for the future,



Oedipus and the Sphinx — his own mother wouldn't know him?

and dispense them even after death.

In a recent American study the contents of 1,000 probated wills were analysed in order to find out whether more resources were, in fact, bequeathed to biological relatives.

They were. Cousins received very little in comparison with offspring. So you don't stand much chance of being left a lot of money by a distant relative. But there is quite a substantial difference between offspring and siblings: in reproductive terms offspring are a much better bet than siblings. Their reproductive success is much more likely to be aided by material resources than siblings, who are probably of comparable age to the will-maker. So by the time he dies they are unlikely to produce more offspring themselves.

Spouses are clearly a special case. My guess would be that, in childless marriages, less would be given to the spouse and more to siblings and other relatives than would be the case for marriages where children are present.

However, if we leave husbands and wives out of the analysis, we find that kin receive about 55 per cent of the total amount bequeathed, whereas non-kin receive only about 7 per cent.

Kin recognition in humans is especially problematical because we all know who our relatives are. But there are some circumstances in which we cannot be altogether certain. These circumstances occur in societies where divorce and separation are frequent, and when children are of doubtful parentage because of promiscuity. A woman can always be certain that her offspring are her own. A male, on the other hand, can never be completely certain. As the saying goes, it is a wise child who knows his own father — and a wise father who knows his own child.

This uncertainty about who one's relatives are is reflected in some rather subtle aspects of human behaviour. For instance, Dr. Robin Russell and I have recently carried out an experiment in which we asked people to rate their feelings of closeness to various members of the family. We made the assumption that,

paternity. The mother of a newborn child and her relatives spend some time commenting on real or presumed resemblances between the baby and the putative father, as though the father has to be convinced that the child is in fact his. There may be good reasons for mothers attempting to persuade the father that the child is his, because when parent and child are not biologically related the child suffers an increased risk of abuse.

American researchers have discovered that a disproportionate number of battered babies are victims of assaults by step-parents, rather than by biological parents. In fact, young children of pre-school age were 40 times more likely to be assaulted if they were step-children than if they were biological children.

It appears that we spend more time with relatives, we give them material resources, we help them in times of danger, we feel close to them, and we weight these feelings in accordance with the probability that we are actually related to them. But the necessary converse of favouring relatives is that we should behave less favourably to non-relatives. By this, I don't just mean that we spend a bit less time with them. We kill them.

It is generally assumed that when people commit murder, it is their nearest and dearest that suffer. That is not the whole story. American researchers in 1982 found that unrelated people living together were far more likely to kill each other than were related people living together. Many of the homicides in the "unrelated" category involved spouses; but even with husbands and wives taken out of the analysis, non-relatives were at a significantly higher risk of becoming homicide victims than were relatives.

In this country, biological kin make up only a small percentage of homicides (15.5 per cent). Unrelated individuals — that is, strangers, acquaintances and spouses — appear to be at much greater risk.

Acquaintances obviously form the highest proportion of victims. But it is perhaps more interesting to consider categories of victims who are probably living in the same household: namely, offspring, parent, sibling and spouse. Of these, it is the unrelated individuals who are most at risk.

The evidence so far suggests that not only do we behave more altruistically to relatives, but we are far more likely to behave aggressively to non-relatives. We don't know whether this behaviour now has any consequences for reproductive success. I would certainly not wish to argue that there is anything adaptive about killing non-relatives or abusing stepchildren. These findings tell us only that our behaviour differs depending on whether we are dealing with biological relatives or non-relatives.

So how did Oedipus get it wrong? According to the myth, he failed to recognise his father, and killed him. He then failed to recognise his mother, and married her (producing four children incestuously). Having discovered his error, he put out his eyes (perhaps assuming that kin recognition was based on visual cues), and was eventually removed from earth by the Eumenides. These were mythical figures who were supposed to punish certain crimes including "disrespect to relatives." Perhaps they can be regarded as representing the forces of evolution.

70 years after first book, Nobel writer remains critical

By Thorir Gudmundsson
Reuter

REYKJAVIK — "The world is full of fools shooting each other for fun. It is the height of idiocy," proclaims Halldor Laxness, Iceland's only Nobel literature prizewinner.

The 85-year-old novelist sits in a leather armchair in a small study in his spacious country villa, surrounded by books, several dozen of which were written by himself.

In conversation he shows he has lost none of the critical edge that has been his trademark in 70 years as an author.

Expounding on the theme of violent people in the world, he adds: "There doesn't seem to be any force around that might wake these people up and tell them to go home and work."

Though he claims not to be politically minded, much of Laxness' life has been a search for just such a force.

The son of a farmer, he was drawn to Catholicism — he twice spent several months in a monastery in Luxembourg — and later turned to Socialism for answers.

He wrote an eyewitness account of the Soviet purge trials of the late 1930s, only to declare decades later that he had "not got the point" of the notorious show trial of Nikolai Bukharin, a leading Soviet theoretician who had fallen out with Josef Stalin and was executed in 1938.

Western historians do not doubt that the charges against Bukharin and other old Bolsheviks were fraudulent and their confessions obtained under duress.

Laxness said that in certain points he had written against his better judgement, hoping that the trials were an aberration and not wanting to contribute to the downfall of "another nation's pet theory."

"I only had a chance to look at things superficially," he told Reuters recently.

"One asked oneself if it were possible to organise such a perfect system of government, which could give everything to everyone," he said.

"I hoped to God that it would get better."

During the early 1930s, his supposed sympathies with Communism got him into trouble in the United States, where he lived for three years.

He said an Icelandic had reported him as "a Bolshevik and a very dangerous person." Two police officers came to question him.

Laxness told his friend and fellow novelist Upton Sinclair about the incident.

"Sinclair got so mad that he collected a team of judges, without any request by me, and I never heard any more about it," Laxness said, reaching for a huge cigar.

Another American writer Laxness befriended was Ernest Hemingway, although the two never actually met.

"He would call me often when he had nothing better to do. He would find my phone number no matter where in the world I was. I've never quite understood it," Laxness translated two of

Hemingway's books into Icelandic. His version of "A Farewell to Arms" is considered a masterpiece.

Apart from using his native language, Laxness has written for publication in English, German and Danish.

"It is easier for me to write in some foreign tongues than in Icelandic, because it is such a beastly language," he maintains.

He said his carefully planned books were written at an agonisingly slow pace. He usually rewrote a book five or six times before publication.

The great depression in America left a deep scar in Laxness' memory. He has a look of anguish when he talks about it.

"I went out one morning in Los Angeles and the streets were full of people standing outside the banks," he said.

"It was ghastly to look at women with their children — all crying. Old women didn't have enough money to buy food. Many had lost everything."

Laxness wrote his first book at 16. The Nobel Prize for Literature came nearly four decades later, in 1955.

Despite the many years he spent away from his home country, his novels are mostly based in Iceland. His characters are often outcasts who survive through the strength of their spirit.

His wit and devastating satirical blasts at living conditions of farmers and manual labourers earned him praise from literary critics abroad, though sometimes less friendly treatment from the conservative establishment at home.

Most people, however, liked what they read.

"You have taught us to see Socrates in Icelandic peasants..." President Vigdis Finnbogadóttir told Laxness during his 85th birthday celebration earlier this year.

"You have played a rich part in teaching us to appreciate the wealth of our history and language," she added.

His best-known books include "Happy Warriors," a satirical novel in saga style, and "The Atom Station," a novel highly critical of post-war Iceland and United States influence here.

Books by Laxness are still best-sellers here but these days are usually collections of older articles. He no longer writes.

"When you've written 50 or 60 books in your lifetime, and many of them very thick, there comes a point when you have nothing more to say," Laxness said.

"After writing so much, you may want to go out and enjoy the nice weather."

Randa Habibi's

The non-smiling species

I THINK I would be able to pick out a Jordanian in a huge crowd of mixed nationalities without difficulty. How? Simply by the expression on his or her face.

Look at us: driving, walking in the streets, sitting in cafes and restaurants. Very few of us smiles or attempt to; the majority of us are serious.

When I drive every morning to my office, I look around and all I see are gloomy faces behind the wheels. At the red light, people look right or left but without a hint of a smile for their fellow drivers. If you, by way of courtesy, stop your car to give way to a pedestrian crossing the street, or to another car, don't expect a smile for a reward because you won't get one.

I once asked a Jordanian friend why it is that people are rarely heard laughing around here where, despite all our problems, we live in a blessed, secure country. My friend told me that, in the old days (and until now), "people used to worry when they had a merry evening. At the end of a good laugh, they would say: 'God knows how many tears we will have to pay as a price for this laughter.'" So, it seems, laughter is associated with a fear of bad luck the following day. How this came about, nobody knows. A way out of this state of mind, in my opinion, is to reeducate ourselves to believe that laughter is the best medicine for the body and mind. Laughter is also a ticket for success and for a good life. I believe it is much nicer for all of us to see smiling faces, than gloomy ones. So let's all smile, laugh, and enjoy life.

Author sees signs of hope for Africa

By Joan Mower
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The future for Africa, a continent that evokes images of starving people, need not be as bleak as it seems, says an author who has studied 20 successful development projects.

"We have come across spreading signs of hope, areas of advance in a line of general retreat, victories pulled out of defeat," wrote Paul Harrison in "The Greening of Africa," a study commissioned by the London-based International Institute for Environment and Development.

David Reynolds, director of the institute's North American operations, said one purpose of the book was to present a "not inaccurate but slightly more hopeful" picture of Africa's future at a time when news coverage of the continent tends to focus on famine and disease.

"There are substantial examples of success," he said.

Harrison, whose book was the topic of a recent discussion by U.S. development specialists, studied 20 successful projects in Zimbabwe, Kenya, Niger, Burkina Faso, Nigeria and Ethiopia in 1985 and 1986.

With the proper approach to development, better farm prices and lower exchange rates, Harrison believes that Africa's prospects could be transformed in the next several years.

One project cited by Harrison involved a cheap, simple irrigation technique in Burkina Faso, a country where land has been hurt by poor rainfall coupled with population pressures.

To conserve water, the villagers were taught to build a line of stones that hold back rainwater, making it pool uphill so the soil can be irrigated.

Another successful project is under way in Niger, and arid country affected by wind erosion.

To combat the problem, trees from Asia were planted to serve as a break.

Tree-planting, an aid to curbing erosion, also has been a success in many parts of Kenya, where it has been promoted by voluntary organisations such as the National Council of Women of Kenya, which set up its "green belt movement" a decade ago.

Kenya is also the home of another successful project that has helped reduce the amount of firewood needed by villages. Deforestation, prompted by a need for firewood, has led to an increase in soil erosion.

In Kenya, entrepreneurs have developed ceramic-lined stove that increases efficiency over a metal stove and can burn fuel such as maize cobs, stalks and other refuse. The stoves proved popular before any advertising campaign, Harrison said.

Although the book talks about government policies that tend to worsen the problems of drought, food shortages and poor soil conditions, it does not deal with civil strife, which is one of the major reasons for famine in countries like Angola, Mozambique and Ethiopia.

"The implicit assumption is that you need some sort of political stability to achieve long-term development," Reynolds said.

The success stories by Harrison had the following characteristics:

— Low costs with profit margins of up to 100 per cent.

— Vulnerability to unpredictable climatic changes.

— Ability to function without imported goods.

— Responsibility for the programmes handled by local communities rather than government officials.

The projects range in their scope, but characteristically they involved improving or preserving the land to allow for an increase in food production.

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Sukova edges Kohde-Kilsch, moves into U.S. Open semifinals

NEW YORK (AP) — Sixth-seeded Helena Sukova beat No. 9 Claudia Kohde-Kilsch in a U.S. Open quarterfinal delayed 4½ hours by rain.

Sukova, who lost to Martina Navratilova in last year's final, downed Kohde-Kilsch 6-1, 6-3 Tuesday before a small crowd at the National Tennis Centre. Rain delayed the start of the match 45 minutes. Sukova won the first set and was trailing 1-2 in the second when another downpour struck, causing a 4:11 delay. Play resumed at 4:46 p.m. (2146 GMT), but had to be stopped four minutes later when rain fell again with Kohde-Kilsch leading 3-2. After an 18-minute recess, Sukova quickly closed out the match by winning the final four games.

"Those were the toughest con-

ditions I've played under," Kohde-Kilsch said. "Coming on and off the court, waiting four hours, the noise from the planes. And she was aces me at the time."

Sukova, who had five aces, said neither player benefited from the rain delays.

"It was bad for both of us," the 22-year-old Czech said. "You never knew what was going to happen next."

The players said they watched television, played cards, ate and read in the locker room during the breaks.

"You have to keep the tension," said Kohde-Kilsch, a 23-

year-old West German. "You can't fall asleep."

Sukova was scheduled to play the winner of Tuesday night's Navratilova-Gabriela Sabatini match in the semifinals.

Asked whom she would rather play, Sukova replied, "Martina is No. 2 in the world and Gabriela is No. 3, so it's always better to play the lower-ranked player."

The starting times for all matches were delayed by the rain. Tournament officials said they would try to hold as many matches as possible even if some lasted beyond midnight.

The Navratilova-Sabatini match, the only other women's quarterfinal scheduled Tuesday, was rained out.

Four fourth-round men's matches also were cancelled due to rain — No. 2 Stefan Edberg vs.

Jonas Svensson; No. 3 Mats Wilander vs. Ken Flach; No. 5 Miloslav Mecir vs. Mark Woodforde; and Andrei Chesnokov vs. Ramesh Krishnan.

On Monday, No. 4 seeds Boris Becker and Hana Mandlikova were beaten.

American Brad Gilbert rallied from a two-set deficit to beat Becker, while Kohde-Kilsch defeated Mandlikova in a match that featured a game penalty against the loser for slamming her racket against a scoreboard.

Gilbert, the No. 13 seed, was inspired by a flag-waving crowd that included his parents, his brother and many of his friends. He will face four-time open winner Jimmy Connors in the quarter-finals.

China's weightlifters steal limelight again in Ostrava

OSTRAVA, Czechoslovakia (R) — China's weightlifters — fortified by a twice daily dose of traditional Chinese potion — are emerging as a major world force in a sport once monopolised by East Europeans.

China headed the team standings at the world championships here after two days of competition, confirming the growing threat they pose to Soviet and Bulgarian lifters who once almost had a stranglehold on the sport.

According to chief coach Huang Qianghui, the key to China's success lies in a mixture of modern coaching and tradition. "Chinese lifters do not use drugs. In fact in China we do not

use artificial means to enhance our performance," he told Reuters.

"Our boys use a traditional Chinese potion made of fresh ginseng, royal jelly honey and antler. They take it twice a day, in the morning and in the evening. The rest is modern coaching devised in the Beijing Physical Education Institute where most of our top lifters are students," said Huang.

Chinese lifters were a force to be reckoned with in the 1950s before sinking into obscurity. But since the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, the nation of one billion people has re-emerged stronger than ever in weightlifting.

Lewis, Johnson run different heats

RIETI, Italy (AP) — Carl Lewis outpaced world champion Ben Johnson 10.05 to 10.35 seconds, but the two sprinters were in different runs at the Rieti track and field meet Tuesday.

Johnson refused to race with Lewis, saying he was too tired and did not want a tough competition. Lewis said he was disappointed.

He ran a strong 100 metres, beating Ray Stewart of Jamaica, who was second at 10.27. Johnson coasted to victory clearly slowing down towards the end, edging Harvey Glance of the United States with 10.41.

The meet featured many stars of the world championships, which ended in Rome on Sunday, but most of them appeared tired and not at their best.

The only exception was Bulgarian high-jumper Stelka Kostido-

nova, who made a try at the world record of 2.10 metres, one centimetre higher than the measure she cleared at the world championship. She just missed at her second try, but clearly showed that she was ready for higher measures.

She won the competition at Rieti at 2.06, beating Tamara Bikova of the Soviet Union, who cleared two metres.

Said Aouita of Morocco won a good men's 1,500 metres in 3:32.71 minutes, three seconds off his own world record.

He beat Peter Elliott of Britain, second at 3:33.23 and New Zealand veteran John Waler at 3:34.75.

The real disappointment of the meet, however, was pole vaulter Sergei Bubka of the Soviet Union.

Those magnificent men in their rallying machines

By Nermeen Murad
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Hani Bisharat and co-driver Ziad Hamzeh Wednesday held a press conference in which they told their success story in the 1000 Lakes Rally, which was held in Finland in August.

Bisharat and Hamzeh came 33rd overall position among 160 participants out of which only 69 cars survived to the finish position line. They also came 6th in Group N and received the award for second best foreign driver from the special groups.

This success has made Bisharat and Hamzeh the first Middle Eastern team to finish in this rally and with such excellent results.

The story started when Bisharat received an invitation from the organising committee for the 1000 Lakes Rally. He thought about the possibility of participating in the rally but he was reluctant at first due to the inadequate funding to cover the expenses of his participation.

"People who heard about the invitation gave us hope and promised to support the team. I immediately talked to Ziad about co-driving with me, we wanted our performance to be of the level that would make Jordan proud of us," Bisharat told reporters.

The team then approached different institutions and friends who might be willing to sponsor their participation.

"We received support and encouragement from many sides including the Royal Jordanian, Pirelli, Ata Ali and some individuals who just wanted to support a Jordanian team competing abroad, Bisharat said adding that some friends started even a fund raising campaign to cover the expenses of the trip.

The team managed to collect the necessary funds and travelled to Finland 17 days before the beginning of the race to practise in the routes ahead of time. "This was the first time we participate in Europe and we did not have

any experience with their roads as their climate and roads differ from those in Jordan," said Hamzeh.

The team allocated 10-14 hours a day to driving on these roads for 10 consecutive days with one thought in their minds, "hard work pays off, we wanted to give a good performance since we were carrying a double responsibility, one was towards ourselves, but more importantly, we wanted to carry the name of Jordan with pride," Hamzeh said.

The team carried leaflets of Jordan which were supplied by the ministry of tourism in Jordan and according to Hamzeh, "we were handing leaflets to people who stopped us. They were excited about us coming from the Middle East to take part in the rally," Hamzeh said.

According to a press release published by the Royal Jordanian, one of the sponsors, "most of the spectators who watched the rally were very impressed by the Jordanian team, this was the first time they saw such an impressive performance by a Middle Eastern team with limited support."

"They kept exclaiming, who are you? where did you come from?" Bisharat said. Hamzeh believes that "if the participation of Jordan in international rallies continues, the name of Jordan will then be known everywhere."

In reply to a question about any future plans to participate in further international rallies, the team noted that the expenses for joining international rallies were high and, in the absence of an organised fund for such events, except for certain institutions, it was difficult to predict any future participation.

The team, Bisharat says, spent JD 5,500 for rental and maintenance of three cars, and JD 3,000 for miscellaneous expenses such as accommodation and transportation. Travel tickets were provided by the Royal Jordanian.

The team extended appreciation to those who sponsored the team and especially Near East Equipment Company, the agents for Pirelli tyres in Jordan, for providing the team with all the needed tyres in the rally. In conclusion, Bisharat summed up their feeling about their participation in the 1000 Lakes Rally by saying, "it was the best experience for Ziad and I, we also gave a good image of Jordan and that is the most important thing."

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Rummenigge set to join Swiss club

GENEVA (R) — Former West German soccer captain Karl-Heinz Rummenigge has agreed to join Servette Geneva, a Swiss newspaper reported on Wednesday. The mass circulation daily Blick quoted Carlo Lavizzari, president of the Swiss First Division club, as saying he had received a telephone call on Tuesday from Rummenigge signalling his agreement to join Servette for two years. The report said talks had been going on for some time between the Geneva club and the 32-year-old Internazionale Milan player who was plagued by injuries last season.

New Zealand ends Australia's unbeaten run

WELLINGTON (R) — New Zealand ended a 14-match unbeaten run by Australia with a 1-0 victory in a soccer international on Wednesday. Striker Fred de Jong scored the only goal in the 18th minute.

THE Daily Crossword by Avery P. Brownfield

| ACROSS | DOWN |
|------------------|---------|
| 1 First gardener | 1 Down |
| 2 Digging tool | 2 Down |
| 3 After tea | 3 Down |
| 4 After tea | 4 Down |
| 5 After tea | 5 Down |
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| 58 After tea | 58 Down |
| 59 After tea | 59 Down |
| 60 After tea | 60 Down |

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FRIDAY 11/9/1987 Vol. No. 14

FIRST RACE 4.00 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1600 METRES

| Owner | Horse | Trainer | Jockey | Weight |
|----------------------------|--------------|---------|------------|--------|
| 1- Abdullah Hsein Marzouk | Itbisam | Owner | Yousef | 54.5 |
| 2- Mamdouh Mohammad Khalil | J. El Bnayal | Owner | Mahmoud | 54.5 |
| 3- Shakir Farhan | A. Naeil | Owner | Amjad | 54.5 |
| 4- A. El Kareem A. El Aziz | I. El Maha | Owner | George | 53 |
| 5- Aly Mahmoud Maddad | Jazy | Owner | Ahmad | 51.5 |
| 6- Hassan Aly El Daham | Fadwa | Owner | Sulaiman | 50 |
| 7- Tabet Elad A. Jneib | M. Laith | Owner | Kasim | 50 |
| 8- Saif Ghazy A. Jabir | Ghannam | Owner | Fawaz | 50 |
| 9- Sakir Fahad Lawanshi | A. Mishaal | Owner | A. Jagheef | 50 |
| 10- Mishaal Miteb El Falez | Shalhoub | Owner | Mwafak | 50 |
| 11- El Daweesh El Bakheet | Rihanih | Owner | Rasheed | 48.5 |
| 12- Ata Mazin El Abbady | Dary | Owner | Sead | 48.5 |
| 13- A. El Kareem Abdullah | | | | |

THIRD RACE 5.00 FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 1600 METRES

| Owner | Horse | Trainer | Jockey | Weight |
|------------------------------|------------|---------|----------|--------|
| 1- Oudih El Kaisy | Kawakib | Owner | Mwafak | 62 |
| 2- Mohammad Omar Hassan | Mansour | Owner | Ahmad | 60 |
| 3- Mashaour F.A. Jnab | N. El Sait | Owner | Sulaiman | 60 |
| 4- Mohammad Khalil | S. Hazim | Owner | Yousef | 60 |
| 5- Mohammad A. El Jalli | El Saleh | Owner | A. Jabir | 60 |
| 6- Mohammad A. El Naby | Makadder | Owner | George | 57 |
| 7- Dr. A. El Hafeez A. Wandy | Z. Maoun | Owner | Mahmoud | 57 |
| 8- A. Jabir Badir Haran | Imad | Owner | Eled | 57 |

FIFTH RACE 6.00 FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 2000 METRES

| Owner | Horse | Trainer | Jockey | Weight |
|------------------------|-------------|--------------|------------|--------|
| 1- Mishaal El Falez | A. El Taieb | Nimih | Saad | 58 |
| 2- Mishaal El Falez | M. El Ajal | Nimih | | 58 |
| 3- Nimir El Hmoud | Atlas | Mahmoud | Mahmoud | 58 |
| 4- Nimir El Hmoud | Ram | Mahmoud | A. Jagheef | 51.5 |
| 5- Nimir El Hmoud | Aghadeer | Mahmoud | Kasim | 50.5 |
| 6- Najla Wasil Beharat | Wardan | Khair El Din | George | 53 |
| 7- Kamel Wasil Beharat | Nasrain | Khair El Din | Rasheed | 50 |

SECOND RACE 4.30 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1000 METRES

| Owner | Horse | Trainer | Jockey | Weight |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|---------|------------|--------|
| 1- Khalil Haddadin | El Harry | Owner | Eled | 58 |
| 2- Ghaili Haddadin | Ikhtas | Owner | George | 51.5 |
| 3- Mamdouh El Hadeed | Rohashin | Owner | Yousef | 51.5 |
| 4- H.H. Late Sheriff Nasir Stable | Kareem | Abbas | Rasheed | 50 |
| 5- H.H. Late Sheriff Nasir Stable | El Anoud | Abbas | Fawaz | 48.5 |
| 6- Nimir El Hmoud | Midan | Mahmoud | A. Jagheef | 50 |
| 7- Nimir El Hmoud | El Hasna | Mahmoud | Mahmoud | 48.5 |
| 8- Saad El Din Rida Saad | Isar | Owner | A. Amarah | 50 |
| 9- Adil Mohammad | S. Adil | Owner | Mwafak | 48.5 |
| 10- Mohammad A. El Naby | A. El Khalil | Owner | | 48.5 |
| 11- Younis Salim El Fokara | S. Salim | Owner | | 48.5 |
| 12- Ghazy F.A. Jabir | Balasim | Owner | Sead | 48.5 |

FOURTH RACE 5.30 FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 1600 METRES

| Owner | Horse | Trainer | Jockey | Weight |
|----------------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|--------|
| 1- Mohammad Masresh Mitak | I. Kais | Owner | Ahmad | 60.5 |
| 2- Sultan F.A. El Falez | El Hanool | Owner | George | 58.5 |
| 3- Sultan F.A. El Falez | Jamrah | Owner | Moussa | 54.5 |
| 4- Ibrahim Hraish | Waly | Khair El Din | Eled | 56 |
| 5- Saad El Din Rida Saad | Ghassab | Owner | A. Amarah | 55 |
| 6- Mishaal El Falez | Nomas | Nimih | Yousef | 55 |
| 7- Mansour Anwar El Shalan | El Mdalah | Mohain | | 53.5 |
| 8- Saif Ghazy A. Jabir | El Asil | Owner | | 53 |
| 9- Nawwaf Anwar El Shalan | Mazoun | Mouhsin | Kasim | 52 |
| 10- Kamel Wasil Beharat | Outomath | Khair El Din | Rasheed | 50 |
| 11- Najla Wasil Beharat | Mashiet | Khair El Din | | 48.5 |

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VAN NUYS BLVD

Performances 3.30, 6.00, 8.30, 10.30

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following were the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| One Sterling | 1.6585/95 | U.S. dollars |
| One U.S. dollar | 1.3190/3200 | Canadian dollar |
| | 1.7920/30 | West German marks |
| | 2.0170/80 | Dutch guilders |
| | 1.4820/30 | Swiss francs |
| | 37.24/29 | Belgian francs |
| | 5.9975/6.0025 | French francs |
| | 1298/1299 | Italian lira |
| | 141.05/15 | Japanese yen |
| | 6.3225/75 | Swedish crowns |
| | 6.5850/5900 | Norwegian crowns |
| | 6.9500/50 | Danish crowns |
| One ounce of gold | 458.00/458.50 | U.S. dollars |

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices were above the day's lows in late trading here as Wall Street recovered after a weak opening ahead of Friday's U.S. trade figures for July, dealers said.

Volume continued thin, with dealers saying there was little incentive for buyers ahead of Friday, when shares could be even cheaper. Even some better than expected half-year company reports failed to lift the market out of its gloom.

At 1423 GMT the FTSE 100 index was 20.8 points lower at 2,254.2, after reaching a low of 2,247.4 at 1348 GMT. Dealers said prices here would probably track the New York market for the rest of the session, with no pick-up of business expected. Most observers are forecasting the U.S. trade deficit in July will probably widen from June's \$15.71 billion. Dealers say a trade gap of around \$16 billion may already be discounted in the markets but that anything substantially above this will be greeted with dismay.

A larger than expected deficit would be likely to send Wall Street sharply lower and lead to fears that the U.S. discount rate will again have to be increased. The U.S. Federal Reserve surprised the markets last Friday with a half-point rise in the discount rate to six per cent. Dealers noted trading on foreign exchange was nervously quiet ahead of Friday's U.S. data.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Use resourcefulness and ingenuity to overcome minor problems in business and personal affairs. This will inspire trust in your associates and help you progress in many areas.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Concentrate on business matters today — home worries can wait for now. The evening is good for social affairs.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You may have difficulty communicating with people other than relatives today, so stay at home as much as possible.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Postpone dealing with money matters and assist a friend. Visiting would be nice, but be sure to drive carefully.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) If someone makes a strange comment, don't take offense; as it may not have been meant for you directly.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Continuing to procrastinate would be a big mistake. Take care of those problems which have needed attention.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Steer clear of people who usually impose on you. Get together with friends you haven't seen for a long time.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Today is a bad time for asking favors of an important person, as he or she may be too busy to help you right now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Contact those who have been successful and get their advice. You know little about this area, so don't go solo.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Avoid arguing about bills before you double check the facts. Be alert to a great opportunity nearby.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A problem between you and a partner is best left to blow over. Relax at home tonight with some quiet entertainment.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Speak to a public figure you know about how to improve your situation. Listen carefully to advice given you.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Forget about that expensive recreation and concentrate on problems which require immediate attention.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she should be taught to overcome nervousness with reason and logic. Be sure to give your child plenty of praise for a job well done, but don't dwell on shortcomings. Having plenty of good books around would be a good way to help pique intellectual curiosity.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Much can be accomplished in the very early morning and in the evening. Don't look for gift horses during the daytime, as you will not find any.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Avoid causing any unnecessary friction at home. Don't be too forceful in supporting your opinions.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Be extremely cautious in writing anything today. Friends could cause you trouble if you're not tactful.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Get your wardrobe in order — that shopping trip may not be needed. Friends can give you good financial advice.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Activities which require a lot of energy would be good for you. Don't let anyone control your thoughts.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Concentrate on the future today. Be watchful for a new enterprise which could prove to be quite lucrative.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Improve your efficiency and you can be done with that piled-up work. This evening should be very interesting.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Spend some time on a quiet hobby you haven't thought about for some time. Invite a good friend to join you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) A trip you've been considering is best postponed until there aren't so many conflicts to be dealt with.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Follow your intuition today, it's really very accurate. Don't be too serious, you really need to unwind.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Steer clear of a nervous friend. Invite some guests in and fulfill your social obligations. Avoid touchy topics.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You can get needed backing for an important project, all you need to do is ask. Success will equal the effort you expend.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) If you explain the practical side of a new plan, you can get a lot of cooperation from co-workers. Use reason and logic.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will have an interesting life from the earliest years, and will get assistance from influential people. Teach your child to be punctual and to keep any promises that are made. This will help to build up good will from others and the bank account at the same time.

Boom goes bust at Bombay stock market

BOMBAY (AP) — There's not a lot of joy these days on Dalal Street, the frenetic home of the Bombay Stock Exchange.

The boom at the exchange sparked by the election of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in 1984 and by his pledge to modernise the nation has gone bust, and now there are lots of sellers and few buyers for heavily depreciated stocks.

As the leading news magazine India Today put it: "The party's over."

Other experts contend that that market will eventually recover. "It's too soon to write an obituary," Mr. Mahendra Kampani, president of the Bombay Stock Exchange, said in an interview.

"There are always temporary setbacks here and there. Our investors have to learn that."

The latest down turn has hurt the pocketbooks of millions of Indians lured into stocks by the bull markets of 1985 and 1986.

And it has soured the Gandhi government's hopes that industry will be able to raise a growing amount of funds through the markets rather than having to rely on banks and the government for capital.

The stock market is, in many ways, a victim of India's changing mood.

The Bombay Stock Exchange, the oldest and largest of the 14 exchanges in India, was organized 100 years ago to centralise trading

that had gone on informally for years under lush banyan trees in the heart of this industrial city.

The trading street's name, Dalal, is the word in the local Gujarati language for "broker."

The Bombay market still retains some of its street-corner flavour, with stocks bought and sold in a shouting and hand-waving melee that reformers contend hides corruption.

Stocks initially were a rich man's domain amid the widespread poverty of India. But in recent years, the emergence of a 100-million-strong middle class has provided a growing base for the markets.

The boom was fuelled by Mr. Gandhi's pledge to lead India rapidly into the 21st century and his 1985-86 budget that cut business and individual tax rates and liberalised industrial rules.

Volume on the Bombay Stock Exchange soared to 136 billion rupees (\$10.5 billion) in 1986, more than double the volume of 1985 and six times that at the start of the decade.

Prices on the exchange's "sensitive index" of 30 active shares doubled in one year, soaring to a record 664.54 in February 1986.

Critics charged at the time that speculation was rampant and that stocks were becoming extremely overpriced. But few customers complained because so many were making money — on paper if not

in fact.

When Mr. Gandhi's 1986-87 budget did not contain further tax rate cuts, as expected by business, the stock market began to soften. Then the market plummeted when his 1987-88 budget imposed a new tax on profits.

Promise of the moon

"He promised the moon so we expected the moon," said one broker who asked that his name not be used. "We didn't get it, so here we are."

The sensitive index plunged to a low of 415.51 in June. It has since recovered to about 480, but volume on many days is less than one-tenth of that in the boom times.

Market analysts say most of the trading now is by such government-run institutions as insurance companies and the massive Unit Trust of India Mutual Fund, intervening to support the market.

Small investors mainly want to sell, but often there are no takers for their holdings, the analysts say.

The meteoric rise and fall of the market also has drawn public attention to real shortcoming in India's largely self-regulated exchanges.

The exchanges are not yet computerised or linked in any national system. All are accused of failing to police insider trading, speculation and other shady practices that can warp markets.

Some deals are questionable, critics say.

Mr. G.S. Patel, former chairman of India's largest mutual fund, charged in a speech last February that the exchanges were creating "a casing culture."

"Malpractices like insider trading, rigging up of prices, creating false markets through spreading rumours, getting misleading information published in newspapers, option and curb trading, manipulation of closing quotations of prices are rampant," Mr. Patel asserted.

He advocates formation of something like the U.S. securities and Exchange Commission to oversee exchanges.

Mr. Gandhi's Finance Ministry, which has an official assigned to each major exchange, did intervene this year.

It ordered the exchanges to ban speculative trading that was driving prices down. It also insisted that the exchanges enforce the off-flouted rule requiring transactions to be settled within 90 proposals for change.

Mr. C. Rangarajan, deputy governor of the Reserve Bank of India, the nation's central bank, sees this year's market movements as "partly corrective" and predicts improvement.

"I believe the fundamentals — in terms of investment intentions and desires — are strong," he said. "The market will turn around."

World Bank needs funds to battle poverty

STOCKHOLM (R) — World Bank President Barber Conable said the bank needs \$60 to \$80 billion extra money, which would about double its present budget, if it is to cope with world poverty in the 1990s.

Mr. Conable told reporters after meeting Scandinavian officials that he would try to persuade World Bank members to increase contributions at the bank's annual meeting late September.

"We hope to have enough to expand our lending programme into the 1990s, but we need another \$60 to \$80 billion. We are only as strong as the support member states give us," he said.

Mr. Conable said the extra funds would take the total World Bank budget above \$100 billion. He was optimistic but by no means certain of the money.

The World Bank, set up under the Bretton Woods agreement of

1944, is the main international agency for channelling aid funds to developing countries.

"My hopes for the conference have been bolstered by the support of the Nordic countries — they have set a constructive standard for other members," he said.

Mr. Conable said the annual meeting, held jointly with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), would discuss the critical

debt situation in sub-Saharan African nations.

One possibility was a reshuffling of African debt, he added, as well as possible interest rate concessions by the so-called Paris Club of the main lending nations.

Mr. Conable said he would also appeal for wealthy countries to keep world markets open.

Also on the agenda would be Brazilian loan repayments.

Brazil drops interest repayment proposal

WASHINGTON (AP) — Brazilian Finance Minister Luiz Carlos Bresser Pereira said Tuesday he has dropped a controversial plan to issue bonds instead of paying overdue interest on about \$35 billion worth of Brazil's debt to banks.

He said he dropped the plan at the suggestion of U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker.

"We're going to offer a voluntary system of discounts instead," he told reporters on the steps of the U.S. Treasury.

He explained that the discounts on the interest would be worked out with each bank, but the principal of Brazil's \$111 billion in foreign debt would not be affected.

The earlier plan would have offered the creditor banks no choice. Mr. Bresser Pereira did not say what would be done about the interest for which creditors did not accept bonds.

There was no immediate comment from the U.S. Treasury. Brazil has been shaking the international financial structure

by refusing to pay any interest to banks since February. It has been making no payments on principal since 1983. If the interest suspension continues into October, U.S. authorities may compel American banks to set aside more reserves to protect their depositors against losses.

Brazil's new offer will be made at a meeting with representatives of banks scheduled for Sept. 23, he added. Brazil owes banks about \$70 billion.

It is the biggest debtor in the Third World, which owes more than \$1 trillion. Sunday's election, in Argentina resulted in unexpected gains for the opposition Justicialista Party that seeks a moratorium on the \$53 billion that country owes.

Mr. Bresser Pereira is planning to meet his counterparts next month from Argentina and Mexico, which owed nearly \$100 billion.

"Others have their G-5 and G-7," he said referring to the groups of creditor governments. "We have our three."

He said Mr. Baker had been worried by the reports of a Brazilian proposal to issue bonds for interest due on half Brazil's debt to banks.

"So we accepted not to propose that," he said. "But there will be a large voluntary programme. The banks can take bonds in as large a quantity as they like at a fixed rate of interest. If Brazil's exports are higher than forecast, we'll pay the bondholders a 'kicker' — an extra amount."

Mr. Bresser Pereira said Mr. Baker had accepted his position that there should be an agreement between Brazil and the creditor banks before Brazil seeks an agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

In the past, banks have insisted that before making concessions to a creditor government, it must submit itself to an agreement with the IMF on the government's economic policies.

The IMF is owned by 151 governments, with the United States having the largest bloc of votes. Its executive board is due

to meet Wednesday on the Brazilian problem.

Mr. Bresser Pereira said that after an agreement with the IMF, he would seek additional loans from governments and inter-governmental bodies.

Later the Treasury Department issued a statement saying that Mr. Baker had told Mr. Bresser Pereira that the earlier plan to issue bonds for the unpaid interest was a "non-starter."

"There was general agreement that Brazil's problems should be addressed in a conventional way and both parties agreed to continue to consult closely to that end," the statement said.

It added that both men understood that any arrangement to delay payments to official creditors rather than to banks would require a formal arrangement between Brazil and the IMF.

Such an arrangement would be unpopular in Brazil, where the IMF is widely seen as imposing austerity measures on Third World countries that ask its help.

Lukman to tour Gulf seeking end to excess oil output

VIENNA (Agencies) — OPEC President Rikman is expected to visit some of the group's states shortly to try to stop the excess oil output which is undermining the group's \$18 a barrel oil price, OPEC sources said on Wednesday.

They said details of the trip were likely to be worked out when five key OPEC ministers meet in Vienna from Thursday to discuss industry reports that the group produced close to 20 million barrels per day (b/d) in August instead of the 16.6 million b/d limit it agreed at summit talks here in June.

Industry experts say that Iraq, Kuwait, Iran and the United Arab Emirates are pumping well above the quotas allocated them by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) last full conference in June, largely because of tension in the Gulf.

They said that some states in the region overstepped their quotas to take advantage of higher oil prices caused by oil market fears of a showdown between Iran and its Arab neighbours or U.S. warships which might disrupt supplies.

Some analysts believe Gulf states may also have over-produced because they feared that the Strait of Hormuz, conduit for about one-seventh of Western oil supplies, might be closed by a Gulf war flareup and lose them precious revenue.

Overproduction and its effect on world oil market prices will be under review when Mr. Lukman and ministers from Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, Indonesia and Algeria meet on Thursday, OPEC sources said.

Mr. Lukman, who has described reports that OPEC produced 19.7 million b/d in August as wildly exaggerated, heard an assessment of OPEC production from experts at the group's Vienna-based secretariat soon after he arrived here on Tuesday.

Oil analysts say that world demand for OPEC crude in the last three months of this year is expected to be 17.2 million b/d, plus another million bought to build up stocks before the arrival of the northern winter, when demand is higher.

The reported quota violations have knocked about \$3 a barrel of free market oil prices in the past month, although prices are still supported by oil market fears of a major clash between the Gulf protagonists or Iran and the United States.

OPEC officials fear that quota violations might undermine the role that the group has regained in the past eight months as arbiter of world oil prices.

At the turn of the year, OPEC set itself out to curb to support a return to take-it-or-leave-it fixed oil prices around an \$18 per barrel reference price for contract clients.

It spelled the end of a year of disarray when gross over-production pushed prices down from more than \$30 in 1985 to lows of around \$9 in mid-1986.

Until the middle of this year, when Gulf tension rose, OPEC appeared firmly in control of world oil market trends and many analysts forecast that the group might even raise prices to around \$20 a barrel at its next meeting in December.

But quota violations have chipped away at the united image OPEC presented at the start of 1987, and Thursday's committee meetings reflect the concern of five key OPEC ministers that the group might be losing its influence, oil analysts said.

Of the five countries in the talks, none are reported to be exceeding their quotas significantly, and the ministers are regarded as amongst the best strategists in the group.

"They might be the wise core, but they haven't stopped OPEC producing at 19.7 million b/d," commented London analyst Mehdi Varzi of brokers Kleinwort Greaveson Securities.

The ministers, grouped in two committees, one studying output and the other reviewing prices, are expected to appeal to the group to abide by quotas agreed in June.

A major headache is Iraq, which rejected the quota assigned it in June, demanding an allocation equal to the much bigger one assigned to its Gulf war foe Iran.

Iraq is now pumping around two million b/d — Iran's quota is 2.3 million.

The issue is further complicated by tension between Iran and Saudi Arabia, architects of the present accord, following the July Mecca riots in which more than 400 people died.

The two countries are waging a war of words over who was responsible for the violence, but a common need for revenue is expected to enable the two states to work together again within OPEC, although there may be friction, oil analysts said.

Egypt expresses concern

Meanwhile, Egypt is seriously worried by the glut in the world oil market that has resulted from overproduction by some members of OPEC. Oil Minister Abdul Hadi Kandil said Wednesday.

Egypt will watch closely for developments on prices and production quotas that may emerge Thursday, Mr. Kandil said.

His statement was distributed by the state-run Middle East News Agency (MENA).

"Egypt views with deep concern the recent increase in crude oil production resulting in over-supply on the world market that was caused by failure of producing countries, particularly those in the Gulf region, to stick to their quotas in violation of the agreement reached at the last OPEC session," Mr. Kandil said.

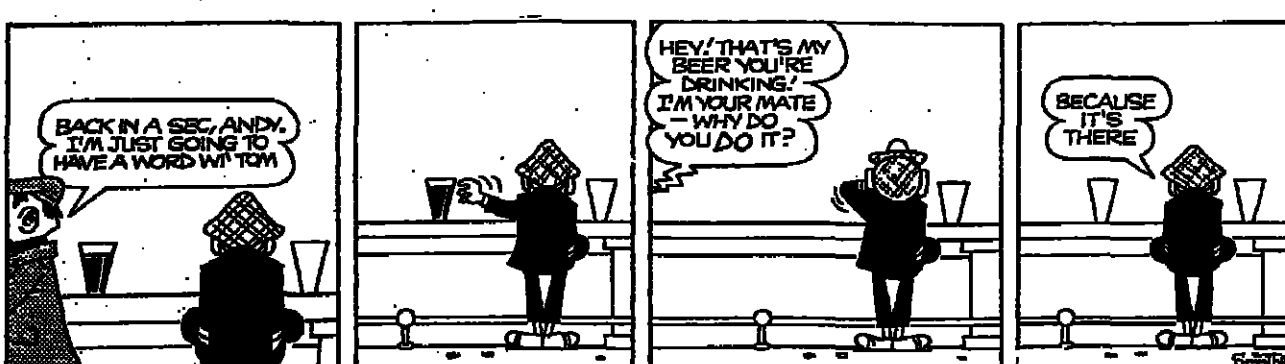
Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

THONC

COLIG

JELOTS

WOUTAL

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: ITS

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: LEECH NOVEL LATEST PURPLE

Answer: A synonym is a good word to use when you can't do this — SPELL THE OTHER ONE

Philippine cabinet resigns to give Aquino free hand

MANILA (R) — All 26 members of Philippine President Corazon Aquino's cabinet submitted their resignations on Wednesday to allow her to reorganise her government, Press Secretary Teodoro Benigno told reporters.

"All the members of the cabinet have tendered their resignations to the president. This was a sort of spontaneous combustion. Nobody motivated it, not a single group," Mr. Benigno said.

"Almost all of us seemed to have thought of the idea almost at the same time because we felt under the circumstances it would be necessary on our part to tender our resignation," he said, adding there was no firm date fixed for Mrs. Aquino to announce her new cabinet.

Mr. Benigno said Vice-President Salvador Laurel, who was in the southern Philippine city of Zamboanga, had been notified and had resigned from his post of foreign affairs secretary.

He said the cabinet would continue to function until Mrs.

Aquino officially accepted the resignations.

The mass resignation came a day after Mrs. Aquino's Executive Secretary Joker Arroyo accused three prominent businessmen and a leading military officer of promoting instability through a propaganda campaign.

The cabinet's action came 12 days after troops loyal to Mrs. Aquino put down the bloodiest coup attempt in her 18-month rule. The resignations followed calls by Mrs. Aquino's sister-in-law Teresita Aquino Oreta, a congresswoman, and other politicians for a revamping of the government.

Mr. Arroyo, who is Mrs. Aquino's closest civilian adviser and widely regarded as anti-military, has been accused of interference in the military operations

that eventually quelled the abortive Aug. 28 coup, which left 53 people dead and 300 wounded.

Asked by reporters why he had resigned, Mr. Arroyo said his action was voluntary and added: "I'm happy."

The resignations were announced after an emergency cabinet meeting at the presidential palace.

The mass resignations mirrored a similar action last November after military officers close to former Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile were linked to a coup plot.

Mrs. Aquino dropped Mr. Enrile and four other ministers in the cabinet she named after those resignations.

"We had a dispassionate assessment of the situation and in the end we thought maybe the president, given all the events, should be given a free hand to reorganise the government," Cabinet Secretary Jose de Jesus said.

"It's a courtesy resignation effective upon acceptance by the

president," Labour Secretary Franklin Drilon said.

Hours before the resignations, Mrs. Aquino brushed aside reporters' questions and left Mr. Arroyo's future open.

"I'm not going to answer any of that," she said. "There will be time for me to answer all those questions."

Mr. Arroyo's resignation had been demanded by several congressmen, church and business groups and leaders of the abortive Aug. 28 coup attempt.

Mr. Arroyo had told Congress that the three businessmen and military spokesman Col. Honesto Isleta were "enemies of the government," whose campaigns to have him sacked amounted to "treason of the highest order."

The three businessmen were Trade and Industry Secretary Jose Concepcion's twin brother, Raul, head of the manufacturing firm Concepcion Industries, Cesar Buenaventura, president of Philipinas Shell, and Roy Navarro, chairman of accounting firm Sycep, Gorres and Velayo.

2 blacks die in S. African violence

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Two black men were stabbed to death, a teenager was saved from a "necklace" burning and security forces came under attack in a flare-up of South African township violence, police said on Wednesday.

A bulletin on politically-motivated violence said a group of men cut the throat of a fellow black in Soweto, the country's largest township outside Johannesburg.

The motive for the murder was not made clear, as in the case of a similar killing at Edendale near Pietermaritzburg.

Dozens of blacks accused of collaborating with white authorities have been lynched by township radicals over the past three years, many of them dying by the so-called "necklace" — a blazing tyre around the neck.

Police said they saved the latest necklace victim on Tuesday when they dispersed a mob and rescued a 14-year-old boy at Claremont near the Indian Ocean port of Durban.

Thousands flee as new floods hit Bangladesh

DHAKA (R) — Nearly 50,000 people have sought refuge in temporary camps after heavy rains caused a second wave of floods in northern Bangladesh, officials said on Wednesday.

They said worst-affected by the new deluge were Sirajganj and Pabna districts where the Padma, Brahmaputra, Mahananda and other rivers swelled above their danger levels following the rains.

Army and civil officials had evacuated thousands of marooned people, but many were still stranded in their flooded homes in remote villages.

"This would set back efforts to rehabilitate millions of people ravaged by the previous floods and cut off relief supplies," one official at Sirajganj told Reuters.

The previous floods, also set off by excessive rains, had killed more than 700 people and destroyed crops and property worth

\$1.3 billion, according to official figures.

Besides, more than 200 people had died of diarrhoea and dysentery because they drank contaminated water and ate rotten food, Health Minister Salahuddin Quader Chowdhury said on Monday.

More than 2,500 medical teams were fighting to save nearly 170,000 people infected by the diseases, he added.

Addressing a rally in the flood-swept northern town of Debaganj on Tuesday, President Hosain Mohammad Ershad dismissed charges by opposition leaders that many people had starved to death after the floods.

"No one has died from starvation as a result of quick and timely supplies of food and arrangements for post-flood rehabilitation," the state television quoted him as saying.

Gary Hart to stay out of presidential race

WASHINGTON (R) — Former Colorado Senator Gary Hart ended speculation about a possible comeback on Tuesday by reaffirming that he will stay out of the Democratic Party's 1988 presidential nomination battle.

"I'm not running for president. I have no plans to run for president," Mr. Hart said on television.

But Mr. Hart, who quit the race on May 8 because of a scandal over his relationship with 29-year-old model Donna Rice, said he would continue to speak on public issues.

"I am going to give speeches and I am going to try to have an impact," he said.

"I want to be part of this debate and I think I have some unique points of view, if I may say so, to add. And I think it would be a sin to go back to troublesome Gulch (his Colorado home) and hide and I'm not going to do it."

Mr. Hart is due to deliver a foreign policy lecture in Philadelphia on Thursday.

Talk of a comeback was stirred late last month when his former campaign manager, William Dixon, told a Wisconsin radio station the former senator would probably re-enter the race.

Mr. Dixon's suggestion was bolstered by opinion polls showing Mr. Hart with more support than any of the current eight

Democratic aspirants.

Mr. Hart, holidaying in Ireland at the time, sent word through aides that he had no such plans. But until Tuesday night he had not made any personal statement.

Mr. Hart also admitted on Tuesday he had been unfaithful to his wife Lee at some time during their 29-year marriage but he would not say whether he had sexual relations with Rice.

"If the question is, 'in the 29 years of my marriage including two public separations have I been absolutely and totally faithful to my wife, I regret to say the answer is no,'" Mr. Hart said.

"But I also am never going to answer any specific question about any individual."

For the first time, Mr. Hart also apologised for his relationship with Rice.

"I want to say to all of you how sorry I am and apologise for those actions," he said.

"No one's perfect. I was not running for sainthood."

Mr. Hart said he was guilty of bad judgment but that his transgressions were far less serious than mistakes made by Reagan.

"No troops were sent into combat to die unnecessarily, no laws were broken, no papers were shredded, no money changed hands, no one lied to Congress and every one of those things happened under this administration," he said.

COLUMNS 7 & 8

2 charged in U.S. kidnap-slaying

KANKAKEE, Ill. (R) — A man and woman were charged on Tuesday with the killing of Stephen Small, heir to a media fortune, who died after being buried alive in a crude, coffin-like box. Prosecutor William Herzog said Daniel Edwards, 30, and Nancy Rish, 25, who lived near Kankakee, were charged with first-degree murder and aggravated kidnapping. He said Edwards was unemployed and Rish sold cosmetics. A third person, Kent Allan, 33, of Kankakee, was charged with illegal possession of drugs and weapons, but Herzog said there was not enough evidence to link him to the kidnapping and the charges were uncovered during the investigation. The three were arrested on Friday night shortly before the body of Small, 40, was found three feet below ground in a wooded area near Kankakee. Police have said they are seeking at least two other people. Small, a cousin of a former owner of the United Press International (UPI) news agency, was kidnapped last Wednesday after being lured to one of his properties in the middle of the night by a caller who claimed to be a police officer and said there had been a burglary. His wife later received \$1-million ransom demand. But the kidnappers did not contract the family again and police on Friday found Small's body buried in a plywood box with a breathing tube and an electric light wired to two automobile batteries. Medical officials said he apparently suffocated not long after he was buried.

Reagan ranks 'at the bottom'

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan "ranks at the bottom" among U.S. presidents, while history will eventually view Harry Truman as one of the best, says Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall. In an interview to be broadcast Sunday on WUSA-TV, Marshall said his low opinion of Mr. Reagan stems from an erosion of civil rights under the current administration. "I don't care whether he's the president, the governor, the mayor, the sheriff. Whoever calls the shots determines whether we have integration, segregation or decency," Marshall said. "That starts exactly with the president." Marshall, 79, predicted that "Truman will come out on top" in the judgment of history, but that Mr. Reagan ranks with Herbert Hoover and Woodrow Wilson as one of the worst presidents ever. "Honestly, I think he's down there with Hoover and that group, and Wilson, when we didn't have a chance," said Marshall, the first black on the supreme court. Marshall also had harsh words for the way Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt, Dwight D. Eisenhower, and John F. Kennedy dealt with civil rights issues. He saved some of his highest praise for the president who nominated him, Lyndon B. Johnson. Calling Johnson the "greatest civil rights president," Marshall said he thinks Johnson's aggressive pursuit of equal rights for all Americans ultimately cost him support. "His plans were unbelievable, the things he was going to do. But he was too far out," Marshall said. "He wasn't thrown out because of Vietnam. They just used that as an excuse to get rid of him."

Band-leader saved from eviction

LOS ANGELES (R) — Band-leader Woody Herman, who faced being evicted from his Hollywood Hills home even though he is bedridden, can stay for at least another 15 months under a court agreement worked out on Tuesday. Singers Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett and Peggy Lee had offered to pay the living expenses of the 74-year-old three-time Grammy Award winner, who now needs full-time nursing. But, under the agreement worked out in Los Angeles superior court between Herman, his daughter, Ingrid Herman Reese, and their landlord, William Little, the band-leader can stay if he pays his rent of \$1,150 a month and \$1,600 in back rent. A local jazz radio station has agreed to pay the back rent, said Herman's lawyer, Kirk Pasich, who is providing his services free. Herman had such hits as "Woodchopper's Ball" and "Caldonia" and made more than 100 record albums. "You hate to see him basically penniless," Pasich said. Herman bought the house, once owned by Humphrey Bogart, for \$400,000.

Brazilian minister killed in crash

BRASILIA (R) — Brazil's Minister of Agrarian Reform Marcos Freire and eight others died on Tuesday when their plane exploded in mid-air just after take-off from an airport in the Amazon jungle, the air force said.

It said Mr. Freire, 56, was on his way back to Brasilia from the town of Carajas in the northern province of Para after a visit to government projects in the jungle.

The three-member crew and five ministry officials accompanying Mr. Freire also died in the crash, the air force said. The cause was not immediately known.

The air force said the minister and his party were in an air force jet when they crashed eight seconds after taking off from the airport at Carajas, site of the world's richest iron ore project. It identified one of the other

victims of the crash as Jose Eduardo Raduan, president of the government's Agrarian Reform Institute (Incra).

Mr. Freire was appointed minister on June 3 to succeed Dante de Oliveira, who resigned in May.

A former governor and senator of the north eastern state of Pernambuco, Mr. Freire was president of the Federal Savings Bank before becoming minister.

Argentine cabinet offers resignation

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — The cabinet has offered to resign so President Raul Alfonsín can make whatever changes he feels necessary after last weekend's election losses to the Peronists, Vice President Victor Martinez says.

The eight ministers made the customary gesture after a meeting late Monday at Mr. Alfonsín's official residence in suburban Olivos, and the president has not yet decided to accept any of the resignations, Mr. Martinez said Tuesday.

Mr. Alfonsín has not made a public statement on the elections.

Spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez said he would not act precipitously after his radical civic union's losses in gubernatorial and legislative contests.

Mr. Ignacio Lopez said the president "is analysing and reflecting on" the results.

Official sources said Mr. Alfonsín would address the nation on Thursday, applauding Argentines for clean elections and reaffirming the success of democracy four years after his civilian government replaced a military government.

His party lost 12 seats and its three-vote majority in the 254-

member House of Deputies. The Peronists also picked up four governorships from the Radicals in Sunday's elections and now hold 16 of the nation's 22.

Peronists still trail the Radicals in the lower house by 107 seats to 118. A small rightist free-market party, the Centre Democratic Union, gained enough to become the nation's third-ranking party, and leftist factions lost ground.

It is the practice in Argentina for the cabinet to offer a mass resignation after an election loss so the president can make changes without the necessity of dismissing ministers.

Soviet weekly suggests Rust could be pardoned

MOSCOW (R) — An influential Soviet newspaper suggested on Wednesday that Mathias Rust, the Hamburg teenager sentenced to four years in a labour camp for illegally flying to Red Square, might be pardoned.

The weekly Moscow News, which has been at the forefront of Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev's campaign for openness, said Rust's release by the order of some high official would be the kind of arbitrary bureaucracy that the Soviet Union was trying to combat.

"But quite another matter would be a pardon foreseen by the law," said its correspondent Andrei Gurkov.

Rust's defence lawyer Vsevolod Yakovlev was quoted as saying on Tuesday that both the pilot and his parents planned to appeal to the Kremlin for clemency.

After the trial in the Soviet

supreme Court last week, the Communist Party daily Pravda said the sentence was humane, while other Soviet newspapers attacked Rust as a conceited hooligan.

But Moscow News was more sympathetic, calling him a lonely boy who could not find his place in the world.

"Others in his position become punks or drug addicts or join sects but Mathias Rust flew to Moscow. Of course, he wanted to glorify and reassure himself but it was a good deed and not an inflammatory act," it said.

Moscow News added that endless Western press speculation this summer as to why Rust had flown to Moscow in May doomed the slim, bespectacled 19-year-old to extra interrogations.

He is still being held in Moscow's Lefortovo Prison, where KGB security police questioned him.

Colombo put on security alert

COLOMBO (R) — A security alert was declared in the Sri Lankan capital and its suburbs to thwart suspected plans by a banned leftist group to kill government supporters, police officials said on Wednesday.

The state of alert began on Tuesday following police seizure of rifles, ammunition and bombs believed stolen by the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (People's Liberation Front).

Officials said roadblocks had been set up and vehicles were being checked at points leading to Colombo. Security was also stepped up at electricity plants and other vulnerable installations.

Troops with automatic rifles were seen on some roads and at government departments near the president's office.

Ortega's Soviet trip may help contra cause in U.S. — aides

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. officials are expressing delight over Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega's planned trip to Moscow, saying it will give a boost to the White House's troubled campaign to aid the contra rebels.

"Whoever is planning Danny Ortega's schedule is obviously on our side," one White House official said Tuesday. "We love it."

"It's hard to believe he would do it," said another official, who also spoke only on condition of anonymity.

Two years ago, Mr. Ortega made his first official visit to Moscow following rejection of an aid package for the contras by the Democratic-controlled House of Representatives. Angered by Ortega's trip, the house quickly reversed itself and approved contra funds.

Hoping Mr. Ortega's plan will have the same impact again, the Reagan administration adopted a low-key stand about the announcement that the Nicaraguan leader will be in Moscow to celebrate the Russian Revolution on Nov. 7, the day a newly signed Central American peace plan is to go into effect.

The only comment from presidential spokesman Martin Fitzwater was to question whether Mr. Ortega was "visiting the homeland."

State Department spokesman Charles Redman noted that the Soviet Union and Nicaragua have been close friends since the start of the Sandinista revolution.

For his part, Mr. Reagan said in a speech Tuesday that the United States should resolve to help the contras if the new peace accord fails to produce democracy in Nicaragua.

"Let's be clear about one thing," Mr. Reagan said. "We will not abandon our friends in Nicaragua. We share their desire for peace, prosperity and demo-

cracy. And we will support them in that quest, just as we've supported them in the past."

Mr. Reagan said that "if the recent peace agreement does not work, let's resolve that they will be able to count on our continuing assistance until Nicaragua is a genuine democracy."

Speaking to political appointees in his administration, Mr. Reagan acknowledged: "In recent weeks the issue in Central America seems at times to have become confused — who is proposing what, how many likely votes are there on Capitol Hill for this or that."

"But the real issue has never changed: The real issue is peace and democracy in Central America and the national security of the United States," he said.

To have democracy, he said, the Nicaraguan government must declare an immediate ceasefire and a general amnesty, accompanied by "the negotiated release of the thousands of political prisoners now held in Sandinista jails, a firm date for free, contested and internationally supervised national elections and the immediate recognition of fundamental human rights."

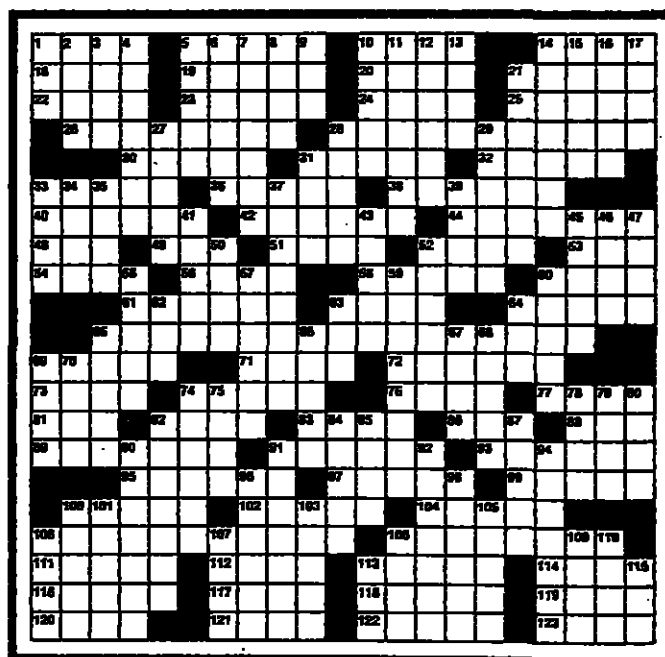
In the view of many Reagan administration officials, proposals to aid the contras in Nicaragua have been seriously jeopardised by the Central American peace agreement signed a month ago.

The accord, signed by five Central American presidents, demands an end to U.S. aid to the contras and gives the Sandinista government in Nicaragua until Nov. 7 to arrange a ceasefire and undertake democratic reforms.

The current allocation of \$100 million in U.S. military aid to the contras expires on Sept. 30. Administration officials have said the peace process will tilt the balance in Congress against any renewal of military aid.

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Etkenson



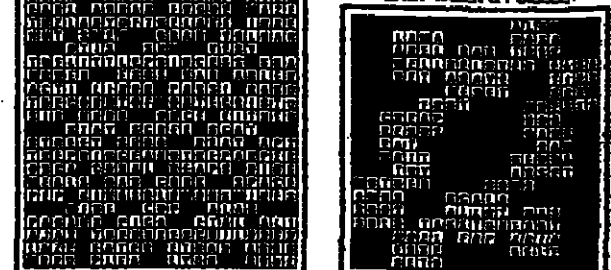
Last Week's Cryptograms

1. Playboy fox, vigorously pursued by crafty young vixen, soon found his way to the family room.
2. A salty summer afternoon may lead a person to desultory dreams of pleasure.
3. Beware of people who can make chains to pedigrees going back to the great flood.
4. When painter painted a pallid person, he didn't need his whole palette.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. PROUD UNLKVY MRONARU ONPODS IRHM
URPOUVY PARG BAR UROV OXESM
BFRNKH ONNETFHEBATRGND X ARU
IEUTRU BMSVRCME
—By Martin F. Garner
2. TVHYFADYJLX KCDJL ADLJH LNHJ DE
SNJH PYPL EYKJLJ CZ KXCKSNEL
ZDIAL
—By Eric Isard
3. FISFITER PAL MISMITER GRUFYR GREF IO
OSTRALE TA OPYRL SPUR
—By Lois H. Jones
4. ETHOS FLOUTS WHAI WY DYOFRIE WPI
PLATO ETDIF DYQURWHYO
—By Norton Rhoads

SOLUTIONS OF LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE



GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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SURGICAL PRECISION

Both vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♠ A 8 5
♥ K 7 4
♦ K Q 4
♣ 10 8 5 3

WEST
♠ J 7
♥ 8 5 2
♦ K 9 8 7 6 2
♣ K

EAST
♠ 10 9 6 3
♥ A Q J 10 3
♦ 6
♣ J 4 2

SOUTH
♠ K Q 4 2
♥ 6
♦ A 10 3
♣ A Q 9 7 6

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1♠ Pass 2NT
Pass 3♠ Pass 4♠
Pass 6♠ Pass Pass

Opening lead: Nine of ♠

For the 12th year in a row, the British House of Lords and the House of Commons did battle royal. Not in the lists, but over the green baize in a contest originated by one of the world's great women players, Rixi Maribus. This year's contest was won by the House of Commons to even out the series at six apiece. However, the prize for the best hand went to Lord Smith.

A noted surgeon, Lord Smith showed his skill at dissecting con-

tracts as well as people. He and his partner did well to stay out of three no trump, the contract that was arrived at and defeated in the other room. The credit for that goes largely to the Duke of Atholl for his bid of four clubs.

Against five clubs West led a deceptive nine of diamonds. Declarer won that in dummy and might have been forgiven had he taken a club finesse. That would have meant down one—East would have ruffed the diamond return and cashed the ace of hearts to ensure the set.

Lord Smith, however, had been down that road before. He led a club to the ace, and great was the fall thereon. It was then a simple matter to cross to the table with the ace of spades to take a finesse for the jack of clubs and land the contract with an overtrick.

True, Lord Smith's play might have given up the chance for the overtrick on those hands where East held the king of clubs guarded but once, but it rated to save a guess in many situations. Had no honor fallen under the ace of clubs, declarer intended to cross back to the table to lead a club toward the king. That would have limited this club losers to one in all situations but K-J-x with West, a state of affairs about which declarer could do nothing.